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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 184

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

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POLL RESULTS

Do you think the CNMI government is doing enough to ensure a smooth transition to zero CW's after 2014?

Yes	18
No	111
Maybe	12
No opinion	6

Sunday, September 15, 2013

15 days to go
before the start of
the new fiscal year

INSIDE

NATION



The world's oldest man, Salustiano Sanchez-Blazquez, has died. He was 112.

► PAGE 16

ASIA



Nearly 100 guerrillas in the south of the Philippines are killed or captured.

► PAGE 17

Tinian commission's \$500, \$50 casino employee fees create uproar

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission's requirement for certain Tinian

Dynasty Hotel and Casino employees to obtain either a \$500 or a \$50 one-time license has been creating an uproar that at least one lawmaker says should be resolved for all parties concerned.

Employees, mostly nonresidents, are the ones required to pay, not the employer, sources said.

Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), a member of the Tinian Legislative Del-

egation, said that, in his understanding, the \$500 license has been in the Tinian Gaming Act and regulations for quite some time but it will be imposed only in

See CASINO on Page 4

Dynamic Airways to launch regular flights next month

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A U.S.-based airline operator will soon launch regular flights to the Commonwealth, marking its first foray into the Korea market.

Dynamic Airways, recently purchased by major owners Ken Wholley and Paul Kraus, will kick off the company's operation next month with additional airlift from Incheon, Korea.

Kevin Lee, Dynamic Airways director, was on island last Friday, along with the company's general sales agents in Korea.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Lee disclosed that Dynamic Airways will fly the Saipan-Incheon/Incheon-Saipan route twice a week starting Oct. 30, using a Boeing 767 with a seat capacity of 250. The twice-weekly flights are

See DYNAMIC on Page 4



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Dynamic Airways director Kevin Lee, center, is flanked by the company's general sales agent from Korea, Jun-Yong Cho and Gun-Jun Park, after a meeting Friday on island. Dynamic Airways will launch its twice-weekly flights from Incheon, Korea to the CNMI starting on Oct. 30. Using a Boeing 767, the company plans to operate four times weekly flights from Incheon in December.

Resolution eyed to help those opting out

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some senators are drafting a resolution urging the CNMI government to help retirees who opt out of the tentatively approved NMI Retirement Fund settlement agreement, even as Gov. Eloy S. Inos and many lawmakers urge members not to opt out of the deal that they say remains the best the government could enter into under the circumstances.

"As of Friday, at least one retiree has opted out... The Legislature will ensure appropriation for his retirement outside of settlement. The class action applies to opt-ins. The Constitution still protects those who opt out. The Constitution was never amended and laws are still in place," one of the senators supporting the resolution told *Saipan Tribune* last night.

The senator said those who opt out "can get relief directly from the

See RESOLUTION on Page 4

3 boats run aground on Tinian reef

Strong winds brought by a tropical storm that passed the northern part of the CNMI caused three fishing vessels to break free from their moorings at the Tinian Harbor and run aground on the reef at Kammer Beach early Friday morning.

No one was in the boats when the incident happened, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Saipan Tribune learned that the Department of Public Safety and Commonwealth Ports Authority safely secured the first vessel, *CM2090CF*, on Friday at 6:29am, and secured the second vessel, *Sonic Queen*, at 2:30pm on the same day.

The third vessel, *Il Sin Ho*, was not secured and remains high and dry on the reef, according to the Tinian mayor's information officer, Cassandra Cabrera.

Cabrera said a certain Mr. Xiong, the owner of *Sin Ho* and Triple Star Company, was given until today, Monday, to contain the contaminated water in the boat and any petroleum products.

Cabrera said that *Il Sin Ho* will most likely just sit on the reef and sink.

See BOATS on Page 4

CNMI Boating Safety officers climb aboard the two vessels that ran aground off Kammer Beach on Tinian. The third grounded vessel is not shown in photo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



50-cent wage increase may still take effect if... PAGE 2
King wants Guam professor to analyze publicity's impact, PAGE 5

Local

50-cent wage increase may still take effect if...

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Employers would still be compelled to increase their workers' minimum wage from \$5.55 to \$6.05 an hour on Sept. 30 if President Barack Obama fails to sign by that date a bill delaying the annual 50-cent minimum wage increase in 2013 and 2015 and conveying 3-mile submerged lands to the CNMI.

A 2007 U.S. law requires an annual 50-cent minimum wage hike in the CNMI until it reaches

the federal wage floor of \$7.25 an hour. So unless a wage increase delay bill is signed into law by Sept. 30, CNMI employers have to comply with the annual 50-cent wage hike law.

Just the same, some employers have prepared for the annual minimum wage increase.

Moreover, should the president sign S. 256 days or weeks after Sept. 30, there is still no telling whether the postponement of the wage increase has a retroactive effect.

The U.S. House of Represen-

tatives passed S. 256 on Tuesday by a vote of 415-0.

The bill went to the White House on Thursday.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), » **Obama needs to sign 'delay' bill by Sept. 30**

when sought for comment over the weekend, said he has talked to the White House "about the advisability of signing S. 256 before the scheduled increase in minimum wage at the end of this month to avoid any confusion."

In his view, it is premature to speculate on scenarios, including when Sept. 30 comes and goes without the president's signature on the bill.

"Ultimately, however, the decision whether to sign the bill and when to sign is up to the President," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Many employers in the CNMI as well as the Saipan Chamber of Commerce were relieved to see the U.S. Congress'

passage of S. 256 that provides an every-other-year reprieve on the 50-cent minimum wage hike starting this year.

Employers said another 50-cent minimum wage increase at this time could cost jobs, a view that some workers share. They say it is better to wait for another year for a wage hike rather than lose their job.

But many workers have expressed disappointment with the possibility of delaying a 50-cent wage hike this year. One of those is Shirley Brillo, 55, say-

ing that she has been looking forward to an increase in take-home pay to better support her family.

Sablan said he made the difficult decision to stretch out the minimum wage increases, taking account of the 82 percent rise since 2007 and the negative gross domestic product in those years.

"If new GDP data, expected later this year, is positive or if next year's GAO report on the impact of wage increases shows no harm, the Commonwealth Legislature could always increase the wage sooner," he said.

GAO stands for Government Accountability Office, the U.S. Congress' investigative arm.

Moreover, Sablan said getting a territorial sea bill to the president has not been easy.

"Measures I introduced in the 111th, 112th, and 113th Congresses all passed the House unanimously. But each died in the Senate. This time, S.256, which was introduced by Senators Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) at my request, fared better, passing the Senate by unanimous consent on August 1," he said.

Prior to joining the school system, Sablan worked as an administrative assistant for the Commonwealth Health Center for 15 years.

Sablan is a teacher aide for three years under the PSS Chamorro Carolinian Language Heritage Studies program. Last school year 2012-2013, she became a classroom teacher.

"My teaching philosophy is to work my best to help each and every child succeed during their educational years and beyond through nurturing and providing them the best of education," she shared.

Like Palacios, Sablan finds fulfillment in life knowing she is making a great impact in the lives of each and every student she mentors every day.

Hopwood's Maintenance of the Year award went to Purisimo Raganot who has been a long time employee of the school.

Moreover, even though there are only nine legislative days for the House in September and the schedule is crowded with a continuing resolution for fiscal 2014 spending, the debt ceiling, immigration, and the farm bill reauthorization, Sablan said he was able to work with leadership on both sides of the aisle to get floor time for passage, "at last, of the Northern Mariana Islands territorial sea bill."

The CNMI is the only U.S. coastal state or territory that does not have ownership of its offshore lands.

Enactment of S.256 provides parity and will allow the CNMI to lease the lands for economic activities and manage them to preserve environmental resources.

Palacios, Sablan, Raganot are Hopwood's awardees for 2013

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hopwood Junior High School named Eric Palacios as its most outstanding educator for this school year. He will represent the school in the statewide search for the overall awardee next month.

Palacios has been with the Public School System for four years. He started out as a substitute teacher and is now a full-fledged career technological education teacher.

Prior to becoming a teacher, Palacios was a bank trust specialist in Honolulu, Hawaii.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* Friday, he disclosed that this was his first time to be nominated and to actually bag the honor as his school's Teacher of the Year awardee.

Palacios is an 8th grade teacher and handles nearly 200 students at Hopwood.

When asked what motivated him to become an educator, Palacios says it's his great desire to impact the lives of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas Barcenas, left, poses with this year's outstanding employees of Hopwood and who will vie for the overall title next month when the Public School System celebrates CNMI Education Month. With the principal are, from left, Instructor of the Year awardee Rebecca Kaneshi Sablan, Maintenance of the Year awardee Purisimo Raganot, and Hopwood's Teacher of the Year awardee Eric Palacios.

schoolchildren.

"The simple fact that I'm being presented with an opportunity to impact the lives of our next generation through knowledge is what motivated me to become a teacher," he said.

He believes the lack of funding for public education continues to be the greatest challenge for a CNMI teacher like himself.

"I believe the greatest chal-

lenge of a CNMI public school teacher, is working with budget constraints (i.e., lack of textbooks for students to take home). These challenges however, have created a plethora of resilient teachers that are creative in their teaching strategies—strategies that allow students to obtain enough knowledge to last a lifetime," he added.

Palacios said he feels all the satisfaction he needs just by looking at the joy in each and every child's face whenever they learn something.

"Each day that I see the joy and smile across a student's face because they've learned something new, is really more than a fulfillment—it's a blessing," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Hopwood bestowed this

Century Cycle, slated for Dec. 7, 2013, in Saipan. The popular bike magazine featured the upcoming race in a recent editorial. This month the race will also be featured in **Cycle Sports**, another popular bike magazine in Japan.

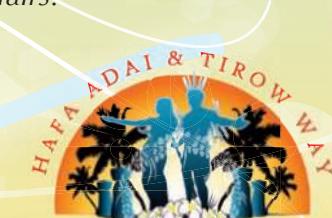


This year's race, sponsored by the **Marianas Visitors Authority** and **Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation**, is designed. The course starts at the foothills of the island's historical attractions at the **Mariana Resort &**

Spa where racers will catch a quick glimpse of the WWII memorial sites before looping around the perimeter of the island. The final 25km canvasses **Suicide Cliff**, **Bird Island** and **Banzai Cliff** prior to attacking the fast flat from **Last Command Post** to the **Mariana Resort & Spa**.

For more information or a registration form, visit the Calendar of Events at www.mymarianas.com.

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Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

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Japanese Magazines Promote Hell of the Marianas

Japan's **Funride** magazine has put in a plug for the 7th Annual Hell of the Marianas

Another Johnson counsel seeks \$3.6M or \$5.9M in fees

» Total attorneys' fees, costs sought by Johnson's 4 counsels now over \$40M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Another lawyer based in San Rafael, California, claims that he is also one of the counsels for Betty Johnson and submitted in federal court a petition for approval of his attorney's fees in the amount either \$3.6 million or \$5.9 million.

Attorney Timothy R. Lord asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday to grant his petition and award him professional fees, using either the lodestar method or the percentage-of-the-fund approach.

Under the lodestar method, Lord said he spent 717.4 hours of professional services at a rate of \$325, totaling \$233,155, along with his paralegal's 34.5 hours at a rate of \$175 per hour, totaling \$6,037.50, for a cumulative base amount of \$239,192.50.

With a multiplier of 15, Lord said this would yield a lodestar method award of \$3,587,887.50.

Lodestar refers to a method adopted for calculating attorneys' fees where the court multiplies a reasonable hourly rate by a reasonable number of hours expended.

As an alternative, Lord said, under the percentage-of-the-fund approach, the value of the benefit obtained for the class by the settlement is at least \$591,219,229.

Lord said that given the enormous risk undertaken in taking this case and the "excellent results for the class," he proposes that 1 percent of the value of the benefit of the NMI Retirement Fund is an appropriate award.

Lord said a 1-percent attorney's fee for award based on the percentage-of-the-fund analysis would yield an attorney's fee award of \$5,912,192.29.

This latest application for attorney's fee would bring the total attorneys' fees and costs submitted by Johnson's four counsels—Lord, Honolulu-based Bronster Hoshibata law firm, Bruce Jorgensen, and local counsel Stephen C. Woodruff—to at least \$40.6 million.

Bronster Hoshibata is seeking \$17.5 million; Jorgensen either \$18.6 million, \$29.6 million, or \$38.9 million; and Woodruff \$1,012,500.

It is not clear if Johnson has another attorney or law firm that might also seek fees.

Honolulu-based attorney Jared Washkowitz filed a lien in Johnson's case in federal court last month, saying he rendered 19.7 hours of legal services worth \$6,205.50 to then unnamed plaintiffs. One of the unnamed plaintiffs was later disclosed as Johnson.

In his application for attorney's fee, Lord disclosed that it was over four years ago, in the spring of 2009, that Jorgensen contacted him regarding a potential action against the CNMI government to recover on a default judgment obtained by the Fund against the CNMI government for its refusal to meet payment obligations to retirees.

Lord said that realizing that the solvency of the Fund and the security of the retirees were in peril, he promptly sent a proposal to the Fund to represent it in an action in federal court against the government.

ATTORNEY'S FEES

- Timothy R. Lord: \$3.6 million or \$5.9 million
- Bronster Hoshibata: \$17.5 million
- Bruce Jorgensen: \$18.6 million, \$29.6 million, or \$38.9 million
- Stephen C. Woodruff: \$1,012,500

Lord said the offer was rejected out of hand by the Fund's board and its counsels.

Subsequently, Lord said he and Jorgensen determined that the best and perhaps only way to save the Fund from insolvency was "to take the matter into their own hands and seek

to wrest control of the Fund from political forces" into the hands of a receiver appointed by a non-biased U.S. District Court judge.

"The result was the filing of this action," said Lord, referring to Johnson's class action against the CNMI government and the Fund.

At the time the suit was filed, Lord said he and Jorgensen knew that as solo practitioners they had very little chance of success against the government, given its access to virtually unlimited funds (including those of the retirees) and its "unbridled political power."

Nonetheless, Lord said he and Jorgensen believed in the cause and filed this lawsuit.

"Suffice it to say, they underestimated the resolve of the government, which took every conceivable action to thwart and delay the recovery of the lawful judgment, including a spectacularly failed attempt to bankrupt the Fund," he said.

After three years of struggle, Lord said it was determined that they would need to bring in the greater resources and experience of the Bronster Hoshibata law firm and also the "courageous representation" of local counsel of Woodruff.

In the early stages of the case, Lord said he employed a highly competent paralegal, Shawn Adams, to take charges of the court filings, which were voluminous and usually performed under tight deadlines and time constraints.

When the case went up on appeal, Lord said he was able to engage the services of a colleague, Jared Washkowitz, to research, draft, and file the appropriate and necessary briefs.

The hearing on the attorneys' fees and costs will be held on Sept. 30, 2013, which is also the date for the final approval of the settlement agreement.

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Speaker names House conferees on electronic gaming bill

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) has named three House conferees that will work with their Senate counterparts on a compromise electronic gaming bill, while Gov. Eloy S. Inos called on lawmakers to send him revenue-generating bills that will help the NMI Retirement Fund and other programs.

The speaker appointed Ways

and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) to once again chair the House conferees on House Bill 18-51, House Draft 4, Senate Substitute 1, along with Reps. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan) and Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan), chair of the Special Committee on Retirement Fund.

Senate President Ralph Tor-

res (R-Saipan) said as of yesterday, he has yet to name Senate conferees on the electronic gaming bill.

Rep. Tony Sablan said the conferees are expected to include a provision earmarking gaming proceeds.

The revenue-generating bill amends the definition of gambling device to exclude elec-

tronic gaming machines.

These machines will be installed only at Saipan hotels with at least 100 rooms or those attached to a golf course.

Sablan said when he introduced the electronic gaming bill in April, his intention was to earmark practically everything to the NMI Retirement Fund to prolong its lifespan but recent events

specifically a Retirement Fund settlement agreement that includes a 25 percent deferral of retirees' pension—require the Legislature to come up with revenue-generating bills to pay the deferred pension.

The speaker said now that the \$123.4-million budget bill for

fiscal year 2014 is with the governor, the House can focus more on revenue-generating bills.

In today's House session, the House is expected to tackle a video lottery bill, a revenue-generating bill that the administration has requested. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)

IT&E dance party ushers in new school year

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Teenagers took over the G.I.G. Discotheque in Garapan last Saturday for IT&E's 2nd Back 2 School Dance Party.

This year's alcohol-free but fun-is-a-premium event had nearly 350 junior high and high school students dancing the night away. Last year's dance party had over 200 students.

The entry fee was \$5 and stu-

dents received a free welcome drink from Coca-cola.

"I really enjoyed the back to school dance party," said one high school student at the event. "It is a great and exciting way to open up our school year with friends."

Another student described the event as "off the hook."

According to IT&E marketing coordinator Brad Ruszala, the money raised from the dance party is used solely to pay

for the cost of the venue.

"We are not in this to make anything...all the money we make from the entree fee covers the expenses for us to use G.I.G.," said Ruszala. "It is all about having the kids come out and having a good time."

The night also featured games and a raffle drawing that offered students great prizes.

Some of the prizes included phones, service, tablets, and a

huge list of contributions from IT&E's partners in the business community.

This year's IT&E Back 2 School Dance was made possible by major sponsors G.I.G., Power 99, Coca-Cola, Subway, Powerade, Foremost, Vitamin Water, KFC, Taco Bell, National Office Supply, 670 Rock Steady shop, Athlete's foot, and Border line.

Power 99.5 FM DJ Bonez served as the night's emcee.

Guam coral reef conservation gets \$556K grant

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has awarded a grant totaling \$556,287 to Guam's Department of Administration for Guam fiscal year 2013-14 Coral Reef Conservation Cooperative Agreement.

The grant will be used to support the Coral Reef Conservation Cooperative Agreement, which promotes and encourages coral reef conservation outreach and education of the public. The funds will also continue supporting Guam's coral reef management activities, watershed

management activities, and coral reef research.

"Guam's coral reefs are the foundation of our fisheries and tourism industries," said Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU). "This grant helps to protect the many diverse coral reef ecosystems we have around our

island from pollution and climate change. I have consistently supported efforts to protect, conserve and restore our coral reef resources on Guam, and I look forward to these funds being used to protect these critical marine habitats for future generations." (*PR*)

RESOLUTION

From Page 1

Department of Finance or the CNMI general fund."

"The Senate recognizes that fact. The Senate is preparing a resolution in the event retirees opt out, so they will have recourse and a pension and will be protected," the senator said.

This comes days after some senators including Senate Vice President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) and Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) described plaintiff's attorneys as "sharks," "vampires" and "blood-suckers," among other things, for proposing over \$30 million in

attorney's fees and costs, at the expense of the CNMI government that will also be required to remit to the Retirement Fund and pay the deferred 25 percent retirees' pension outside of the settlement fund.

The governor and lawmakers are set to meet again today on the Fund settlement deal.

After the meeting, some senators would decide whether to pre-file the resolution to help those who opt out or seek more meetings with stakeholders.

"After Monday's meeting, the Senate will move forward," one of the senators said.

But the governor reiterated his concern that those who opt

out of the settlement class will not be allowed to make a claim to benefits from the settlement fund, among other things. For them, there is no guarantee that they could receive at least 75 percent of their pension.

If at least 10 percent of the members opt out, and the deal fails, the parties will return to litigation and proceed as though there were never a settlement agreement.

The administration said the settlement deal is still the best the government can enter into, but it is only the proposed attorneys' fees that they are concerned about.

Meanwhile, the House of

Representatives is poised to adopt today a joint resolution requesting the governor to "strongly oppose" Johnson's requested attorneys' fees, require plaintiff's counsel to prove to the court their entitlement to attorneys' fees, and encourage the governor "to negotiate a reasonable amount of attorney's fees and payment terms with plaintiff's counsel."

With additional court filings, the proposed plaintiff's attorneys' fees may have already reached \$40 million, considering that the CNMI government's proposed budget for fiscal year 2014 alone is \$123.4 million.

airline will offer a lower and fair market value for its tickets while ensuring a high standard of service.

To date, three attendants who were hired locally just completed training at its facility in the U.S. while more attendants are undergoing a similar training.

"Our plan is to support the growth here in the U.S. point of view...and this is our first step," he said.

Lee refused to disclose the amount of investment they poured into the CNMI operation, but estimated the amount at a few millions. In acquiring one aircraft alone, he said, the company spent some \$8 million.

Besides Lee, also on island on Friday were the company's general sales agents in Korea, including Jun-Yong Cho and Gun-Jun Park.

DYNAMIC

From Page 1

scheduled every Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Dynamic Airways will join the CNMI's signatory airlines Delta and Asiana airlines, which serve the Japan and Korea markets respectively.

Based on the schedule obtained by *Saipan Tribune*, Dynamic Airways' Saipan departure is slated at 2:20am on Wednesday and 2pm on Saturday. Its Incheon departure, meantime, is scheduled at 8:30pm on Wednesday while 7:30pm on Saturday.

Lee said the twice-a-week flights are until Dec. 14. After that, Dynamic Airways will expand its flights to four times a week, also from the

same market.

Saipan Tribune learned that Dynamic Airways was formally acquired by its new owners in May this year. Since then, Lee said the company has been working on getting the flights to the CNMI off the ground.

Dynamic Airways, according to Lee, took over the former owner's FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) 121 Certificate as an airline operator. Besides the CNMI, Lee said that Dynamic Airways has other operations all over the United States.

As a U.S. airline, Lee explained that Dynamic Airways is not required to secure other permits such as local permits in the CNMI. "We are an FAA-certified 121 operator and because this is a U.S. soil, as a U.S. airline, we don't need any more to get [additional] permits

to fly [here]," he explained.

Lee said the company will use one aircraft and a backup plane for the twice-weekly flights from Incheon. "We have five aircraft (all 767) that we plan to bring in here for our expanded routes. But for now, we are going to take it step by step," he said.

Lee disclosed the airline's plan to also serve the Japan and China markets in the long run. *Saipan Tribune* learned that Dynamic Airways wholly owns the five 767 aircraft for its long-term business plan.

Dynamic Airways, Lee said, decided to offer its services to the Commonwealth to bring to the islands fair market competition that will boost the CNMI's airlift and will help revive its tourism industry.

Lee assured that the new

airline will offer a lower and fair market value for its tickets while ensuring a high standard of service.

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In today's House session, the House is expected to tackle a video lottery bill, a revenue-generating bill that the administration has requested. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)

BOATS

From Page 1

of petroleum products aboard. Responders were last reported working to acquire pumps and absorbent pads.

Sonic Queen has no reported damage or fuel aboard.

A unified command was established to include the owners of the boat, DPS Tinian, CPA, Division of Environmental Quality, and U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam.

A witness said the responders put up a command post at the incinerator building of the dock, assessed the situation, and managed to secure two of the three boats.

Cabrera said as of Saturday at 2:30pm, the USCG called off the mission to pull *Il Sin Ho*.

Cabrera said all government agencies are taking measures for the aftereffect or damage to the coral reef if in case *Il Sin Ho* will be pulled off the reef. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

CASINO

From Page 1

(regular casino and hotel employees) must apply and pay a one-time fee of \$50," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Employees interviewed also confirmed the fees.

Blanco-Maratita said the casino employee licensing is dependent on the "type of work" performed by the employee or applicant.

"Therefore, if an employee gets promoted or transfers to another position [different type of work], the employee has to apply for a license for that changed type of work or position," she added.

Florida-based human rights activist and former CNMI teacher Wendy Doromal described the \$500 fee as "robbery" at a time when Tinian Dynasty has just started paying its employees on time.

A few weeks ago, Dynasty started paying its employees' back wages and has been issuing payrolls on time and even a day earlier.

"But now the Tinian Gaming Commission is out to take a huge chunk of their wages," Doromal said.

Nonresidents have said that the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission posted a memo in which all staff that were promoted must update their current ID.

In order for an employee to update their ID, they have to pay \$500 to the commission.

"If the ID is not updated the employee will be given a notice that they have seven working days to pay the fee and after that the employee is not allowed to work. This is robbery. What person making less than \$7 an hour can come up with \$500 for a bogus ID fee? Just one more ugly CNMI extortion scheme," Doromal added.

King wants Guam professor to analyze publicity's impact

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney Janet H. King has asked the Superior Court to appoint a University of Guam political science professor to assist her client, murder suspect Joseph A. Crisostomo, in analyzing the impact of media coverage of the case and thus the need to change the trial's venue.

As this developed, the jury trial of Crisostomo will be moved to April 7, 2014, after Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho granted on Friday chief prosecutor Shelli Neal's request to postpone the trial. The original

trial schedule was Oct. 15, 2013. King did not object to the government's motion.

In a motion filed Friday, King asked the court to grant the appointment of professor John Stoil, to conduct a poll on pre-trial publicity.

To support the motion, King attached hundreds of pages of newspaper articles, including Crisostomo's long history of criminal cases, blogs, photos and news articles from the Internet and You Tube. In total, she filed 175 exhibits to support the motion.

King said these articles and other media sources more ful-

ly show that the media coverage of the case "was pervasive and prejudicial."

"The long and the short of it is, potential jurors in Saipan have been inundated and bombarded every step of the way in this case in the print, televised, and electronic media," she said.

She said it is hard to imagine a potential juror who has not been tainted by the ongoing instant coverage of events of this case.

"Further, ongoing media interest in this case continues. This is not a case where media interest was intense at the beginning and then fell off over time. It has continued unabated," she said.

Citing case law, King said the fundamental right to a fair trial by an impartial jury includes the right to a trial by jury from out-

side influences, such as prejudicial pre-trial publicity.

King said she has contacted Stoil, who has agreed to assist Crisostomo without cost by designing, disseminating, and analyzing a poll of prospective veniremen to assess the impact of media coverage on the list from which jurors may be selected.

Veniremen are people who are summoned to the courthouse so that they may be questioned and perhaps chosen as jurors in trials of civil or criminal cases.

Last Wednesday, Camacho denied King's motion to change the trial venue.

In the government's request to continue the trial, Neal disclosed that on Aug. 22 and 26, 2013, the government received documents and discs from the

Federal Bureau of Investigation containing supporting documents and records retained in FBI files that are part of this case. Neal said the documents and records totaled over 400 pages of science and technical information.

Four days later, she said, these documents were supplemented by six discs of additional scientific and technical information relating to the lab analyses performed in this case.

Neal said that based on conversations with the FBI lab analysts who authored the reports in this case, four weeks is not enough time for the defense experts to review, consult and render an opinion that would then be turned over to the FBI lab analysts to review.

Neal said the FBI lab analysts will be traveling to Saipan from the mainland, most from Quantico, Virginia.

The chief prosecutor said continuing the trial to a date in 2014 would not prejudice Crisostomo as he is currently serving a 10-year prison term in another case and his projected release is Sept. 13, 2022.

FBI agents found the body of bartender Emerita Romero at the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque on Feb. 7, 2012, two days after she was last seen boarding a car near her house in Garapan.

Crisostomo, 40, is facing charges of first degree murder, kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, robbery, theft, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy birthday Lennie Marie! Enjoy your day and may you have many more years to come! God bless and may all your wishes come true! Greetings come from MoLeslieAJRJ.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 17th birthday, Sierra Calvo! Hope you enjoy your special day. We love and miss you. Greetings come from Gregory Jr. and family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



"Secret Shoppers" Needed!

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The U.S. Navy INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE in the Mariana Islands Training and Testing EIS/OEIS

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with the continuation of military readiness training and testing activities conducted within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) Study Area. The MITT EIS/OEIS is the reevaluation and reauthorization of training and testing activities reviewed in the Mariana Islands Range Complex EIS/OEIS, which the Navy completed with community input in 2010.

The Navy requests your input!

The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for public review and comment from Sept. 13, 2013, to Nov. 12, 2013.

Submit Written Comments To:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific
Attention: MITT EIS/OEIS Project Manager
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134
Submit comments online at www.MITT-EIS.com.

All comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 12, 2013, Chamorro Standard Time (CST), for consideration in the Final EIS/OEIS.

Visit the following public libraries or www.MITT-EIS.com to view the document: University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Tinian Public Library or the Rota Public Library.

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Roberto indicted, pleads not guilty

A federal grand jury indicted on Friday former acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond Borja Roberto, who was recently arrested by Federal Bureau of Investigation for allegedly paying for sex with three female minors.

The indictment charged the 40-year-old Roberto with one count of coercion and enticement of a minor.

According to the indictment, on July 13, 2013, Roberto "using a facility and means of interstate or foreign commerce, knowingly persuaded, induced, enticed and coerced an indi-

vidual who had not attained the age of 18 years old, to engage in sex activity for which a person could be charged with a criminal offense..."

Roberto appeared in court with his counsel, Joaquin Torres. He pleaded not guilty.

Last week, Torres cited some alleged inconsistencies in the girls' statements given to the FBI.

Torres pointed out that one of the girls apparently told the FBI that her first encounter with Roberto was on March 12, 2013, when she ran away from home. The girl also allegedly stated that she and the other girls were

picked up by the defendant on March 12, 2013.

Torres pointed out that on these particular dates, his client was not on Saipan as he was off-island from March 7 to 15, 2013.

Saipan Tribune learned that Roberto served as acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife for only two days.

FBI agents arrested the defendant last Aug. 31 on charges of coercion and enticement. The case is related to the earlier arrest of firefighter Richard S. Benavente and suspected pimp Annette N. Basa. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SHRM presents EEO review, update

The Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter will have its September general membership meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013, at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret, from 10am to 12pm. Timothy Riera, director for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Honolulu Office, will be the guest speaker.

This session will focus on the review of Equal Employment Opportunity laws and recent EEOC updates including new developments involving retaliation, sex discrimination, as well as arrest and conviction records.

This training will take about

two hours and will start at 10am. The cost of attendance is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members and includes lunch. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Malou Jardiner at 234-7171 local 1518 or e-mail her at malou_jardiner@tanholdings.com. (*SHRM*)

SHEFA reminders

The deadline for supporting documents is on Monday, Sept. 30, 2013. Documents submitted after the deadline will not be entertained. If you have any questions, call us at 233-5995 or email us at contact@saipan-shefa.net. (*PR*)

FOA sets 2nd round

of auditions for new production

The Friends of the Arts will be presenting Larry Shue's *The Foreigner* on Oct. 25, 26 and 27. The 1884 play is a comedy with a rustic air that has won two Obie Awards and two Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Best New American Play and Best Off-Broadway Production. Several of the seven roles still remain to be filled. Interested performers and would be performers, male or female of all ages, are invited to try out. The second round of auditions will be held at the Dolphin Theater in Marianas High School on Tuesday, Sept. 17, from 7:30pm to 9pm. (*FOA*)

NATIONAL/CNMI CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK SEPTEMBER 15 – 21, 2013



Car Seat Recommendations for Children

- Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, and choose a seat that fits in your vehicle and use it every time.
- Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions; read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or LATCH system; and check height and weight limits.
- To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
- Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.



DESCRIPTION (RESTRAINT TYPE)

A REAR-FACING CAR SEAT is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and is a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child's fragile neck and spinal cord.

A FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT has a harness and tether that limits your child's forward movement during a crash.

A BOOSTER SEAT positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child's body.

A SEAT BELT should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.



For more information please contact CNMI Department of Public Safety – Highway Safety Office at
Saipan 664-9001/9085 • Tinian 433-9222/2041 • Rota 532-9433/9530

Weather takes toll on CUC's fragile electrical transmission

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan W. Fletcher disclosed Friday that the utilities corporation has been suffering from a rash of weather related power interruptions.

While weather this season has so far not been extreme, he said the recent heavy rains and moderate winds are taking a toll on the island's fragile electrical transmission and distribution systems.

"The outages we have experienced of late are weather and location dependent. Currently there are no customer outages and CUC has placed crews on standby," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

He described the series of power interruptions as "localized outages."

"If we have severe weather, we are prone to some localized outages due to trees and branches falling into lines. CUC will continue with short-term planned outages for system maintenance," he added.

Last Friday, the saturated ground resulted in trees toppling into power lines and causing outages. Last week, the outage to CUC's Feeder 2 line was due to the blustery weather that puts extra stress on worn support hardware systems, causing failures.

"The primary causes of the most recent weather related outages include deteriorated power pole hardware and fallen tree

branches," according to Fletcher, adding that most affected has been Feeder 4, which serves Lower Base, Sadog Tasi, Capital Hill, Talafofo, As Teo, Kagman, and Papago.

"The interruptions began early Wednesday morning and continued throughout the day. Multiple CUC line-crews were on call to address the problems as they were received. The crews were rotated throughout the 24 hours to ensure that all calls were responded to," he said.

Unfortunately, he said, while severe weather triggers outages in a "pole and wires" system, CUC's system is especially prone to failure due to its worn state. CUC's line-crews are forced to work in a more reactive mode to outages, instead of preemptive replacement of hardware. Fletcher disclosed that much of the hardware was installed years ago and has been severely degraded by rain and salt spray from the coastline.

"[Transmission and distribution] systems maintenance is being performed on a regular basis, including current work on Rota, upgrading feeder and power-generation systems. More work is required, though, and is hampered by a lack of inventories and equipment," he said.

Fletcher urges customers to take precautions and prepare for sporadic outages if a major weather system hits the CNMI. "In addition, always be wary of any downed electrical wire and

treat all downed wire as 'live' and stay away," said Fletcher.

If customers observe downed

wire or experience outages, call 664-4CUC (664-4282) and report it to CUC's Call Center.

Groups commemorate 9-11 attacks at AMP

More than 50 people commemorated the 12th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks at the American Memorial Park visitors center last Wednesday.

Organized by the U.S. Pinoys for Good Government, the Association of Filipino Pastors, and the El Shaddai Charismatic Group on Saipan, the event was dubbed the 12th Anniversary of the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance.

"The commemoration of the 9-11 attacks and the ceremony was successful. It was emotional and relevant. There were more than 50 participants, majority were youth who are interested to know and learn about the Sept. 11 attacks, and pay respect, honor and pay tribute to those who lost lives on that tragic day, honor the survivors and victims' families, and to honor the bravery of those first responders," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, USP4GG Marianas Chapter chairperson and a volunteer of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

"We are proud of our own first responders because in the past they had to respond to various disasters and calamities and in the future, they will be called upon to do it again. Hence, on this 12th anniversary of the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance, we have to recognize and honor our first responders in the CNMI, too," added Lamkin.

She also read a message from USP4GG national chair Loida Nicolas Lewis, who said Sept. 11, 2001 has "come to symbolize the resilience, kindness, volunteerism, and unity of the American people."

"We will never forget that tragic day, the innocent lives lost, the bravery of those who responded, and the remarkable spirit of unity and compassion that swept the country in the aftermath," Lamkin quoted Lewis' message.

National Parks Service superintendent Ron Borne served as Wednesday's guest speaker.

Borne urged everyone not to forget the 2,983 men, women, and children who perished 12 years ago not only in the Twin Towers attacks in New York but also those who died in the Pen-

tagon and Pennsylvania attacks. He said it would be a second tragedy if future generations of Americans not remember the "legacy of heroism" that was displayed in that fateful Sep-

tember day in 2001.

Aside from the speeches and message, several films about the 9-11 attacks were shown and the El Shaddai Youth Choir sang patriotic songs. (Mark Rabago)



National Parks Service superintendent Ron Borne served as guest speaker of last Wednesday's 12th Anniversary of the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguijan
P.O. Box 520059
Tinian MP 96952
Tel: (670) 433-2200 • Fax: (670) 433-1819
Email:tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 9 a.m. at the Mayor's Conference Room, 1st floor, in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION²

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and Approval of Fall 2013 Scholarship Application
2. Approval of Fall 2013 Award Disbursement
3. Discussion and recommendation on Board vacancy

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Chairman
2. Vice Chairman
3. Secretary/Treasurer

VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER

VII. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ LYDIA F. BARCINAS³

Chairwoman

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912. The Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE USED VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT CPA-PAN-004-13

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority will sell at Public Auction, October 24th, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. used vehicles and equipment.

The used vehicles and equipment may be inspected at the Saipan International Airport by contacting Mr. Edward B. Mendiola or Juan C. Tudela at telephone numbers 237-6500/6505.

The schedule of vehicles and equipment may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport beginning September 27, 2013.

The auction shall be made individually. Minimum bids are set for some of the vehicles.

All vehicles and equipment are sold "As Is" and "Where Is" and without Warranty. The successful bidder is required to pay 20% down payment at CPA Accounting Office on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable within 5 calendar days from auction closing date. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment. Payment shall be in cash, cashier's check, or money order payable to CPA.

CPA assumes no responsibility for any costs incurred by bidder's in their preparation of the bids.

Inquiries may be directed to the Procurement Officer, Mr. Alex C. Tudela, at telephone number 237-6563.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

treat all downed wire as 'live' and stay away," said Fletcher.

If customers observe downed

wire or experience outages, call 664-4CUC (664-4282) and report it to CUC's Call Center.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT INVITATION TO BID ITB13-MEDICAID-176

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2013 • TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FURNITURES AND PARTITIONS FOR THE MEDICAID AGENCY"

THE SPECIFICATION FOR THIS PROJECT MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED IN LOWER BASE DRIVE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IF, IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ HELEN C. SABLON
MEDICAID ADMINISTRATOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

Procurement And Supply CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP: RFP13-CHCC-174

Submission Date: October 21, 2013 Time: 2:00 p.m.

"TO REVIEW AND REVISE THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION'S (CHCC) CURRENT SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM"

Copies of the RFP packet may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on October 04, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., local time at the Joseph Villagomez Dialysis Building, Conference Room 3, Garapan Saipan.

Any questions regarding this RFP may be sent to Myrna Boyer, CHCC HR Manager via e-mail to mynaboyer@gmail.com no later than the close of business, October 09, 2013. Responses to questions shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

The CNMI government reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Esther I. Muna
CHCC Interim CEO

/s/ Herman S. Sablon
Director, P&S

Procurement And Supply CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2013-CDA-06-RFP

Submission Date: October 9, 2013 Time: 10:00 a.m.

"BROWNFIELDS MARKETING PLAN FOR CDA"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular business hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLON
Executive Director

/s/ Herman S. Sablon
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY P.O. BOX 502149, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147 Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

BROKERS/REALTORS

This is to inform all CNMI Brokers/Realtors that we are currently accepting qualifications to represent the Commonwealth Development Authority ("CDA") in marketing of for sale properties. In order for CDA to consider your services you must submit the requirements below:

1. Valid CNMI Business License (Copy).
2. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue and Taxation Office.
3. Firm's History – Including resume of broker, realtors, and staff members, experience, and a list of accomplishments that are relevant to the scope of work stated.
4. Work Plan for Marketing Properties.
5. References, etc. – All proposers shall include the name, address and telephone numbers of at least three (3) clients from whom Real Estate services have been performed.
6. Other information that may be helpful to the evaluation team.
7. Proposal must be submitted in one (1) original and two (2) copies.

Brokers/Realtors qualification will be evaluated based on firm's history, performance and marketing plan. Qualified Brokers/Realtors will be required to sign a CDA Listing Agreement stating terms and conditions.

All request for qualification (RFQs) must be submitted by Monday, October 7, 2013 at the CDA office, 2nd Floor in Oleai no later than 4:00 p.m. All RFQ received after stated deadline will not be accepted.

For questions contact Aaron Wood at (670)234-6245 ext. 308 or by email at loan@cda.gov.mp

MARPAC celebrates 40 years on Saipan



Steve Sablan, second from left, receives the grand prize of two roundtrip tickets to Japan courtesy of Delta Airlines from Delta Airlines sales and marketing's Chris Concepcion, second from right, and MARPAC Inc. resident manager Guy Pudney.

Food was bountiful, Budweiser was overflowing, and prizes galore were being given left and right during MARPAC's 40th Anniversary Banquet last Saturday at Pacific Islands Club's The Magellan.

MARPAC resident manager Guy Pudney said the banquet was the company's little way of thanking its loyal customers, business partners, and the local community for 40 years of doing business on the island.

The banquet, which also coincided with the awards ceremony of that morning's MARPAC 40th Anniversary Golf

Tournament, saw more than 400 people in attendance including dignitaries that included Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Sen. Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan), and former lieutenant governor and representative Diego Benevente.

Entertainment for the evening was provided by Parker Yobei.

Pudney said 40 years on Saipan is a real milestone and he looks forward for another 40 years of success on the island.

Other MARPAC and Shimbros International, Inc. officials present were Jojo Camacho and Melvin Tenorio, now assigned in Guam and Palau,

respectively.

In the raffle, John Cepeda of Dandan won the runner-up grand prize, which was a 42" Vizio flatscreen TV donated by Matson Shipping. Steve Sablan, however, went home with the biggest smile as his ticket No. 346 won him the grand prize made up roundtrip tickets for two to Japan, courtesy of Delta Airlines.

The MARPAC 40th Anniversary Banquet is the latest of a long line of events the company has organized to celebrate the milestone. In the past couple of months,

MARPAC brought in Hawaiian island reggae legend Baba B and comics Ron Josol, Mel Cabang, and Kaleo Pilanca.

MARPAC's 40th anniversary celebration isn't over. Pudney said the company's "40 Days of Giveaways" is still on and is open for residents 21 years old and over. Any purchase of a 12-pack or bucket of Bud or Bud Light gets one a chance to win daily prize and cash giveaways for 40 days like Bud gears, hotel stays, roundtrip tickets to Guam or Manila, \$4,000 cash grand prize, and many more. (Mark Rabago)

There's still time to join coastal cleanup

It is not too late to sign up for 28th Annual International Coastal Cleanup! Get your friends, family, coworkers, club members, and anyone else to take an hour out of their Friday or Saturday and pick up trash. Join the CNMI's and world's fight to keep the seas trash free.

Worldwide the top 10 common things that are found along the shore are cigarettes, food

wrappers, plastic bottles, plastic bags, bottle caps, plastic eating utensils, straws, glass bottles, aluminum cans, and paper bags. Saipan is no different. Last year Saipan picked up almost 5,000 cigarette butts, 1,300 food wrappers, 1,700 plastic bags, and other items that equaled 4,100 lbs of trash.

Trash not only becomes an eye sore on the beaches but it can also cause health issues

from water pollution and dangers from stepping on trash (e.g. glass). Our wildlife is also in danger from the debris we find along our coast. They get entangled, ingest it, and in some cases it is the cause of their mortality.

Join this global and local effort! Put your community first and sign up for the International Coastal Cleanup on your island. Call your local coordinator and

see what beaches are available for cleanup. An hour of work will remove debris dangers from our coast and protect us and the local wildlife.

■ Saipan coordinator: Nicole Schafer, 664-8312, ICC dates: Friday, Sept. 20 and Saturday, Sept. 21

■ Rota coordinator: William Pendergrass, 532-0466, ICC date: Friday, Sept. 20

■ Tinian coordinator: Edwin Hofsneider, 433-0494, ICC date: Wednesday, Sept. 18. (PR)

HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZE

Joeten Motors provided a brand new 2014 Ford Fiesta for the hole-in-one sponsorship of Marpac's 40th Anniversary Golf Tournament last Sept. 14, 2014, at Lao Lao Golf Course. In the picture, from left, are Joeten Motors GM Matt Deets; Joeten parts manager Dung Tenorio; Ambros Business Development Manager Jojo Camacho; Marpac resident manager Guy Pudney; Ambros Con. sales manager Tim Aguon; and Ambros-W&L manager Joey Salas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



'Immigration bill helps keep families together, protects NMI economy'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said he remains committed to keeping families together and protecting the CNMI economy in the wake of Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro's (R-Saipan) introduction of a resolution asking the U.S. House of Representatives to "hold indefinitely" any action on S. 744's provision giving long-term foreigners and their families in the CNMI a chance to apply for an improved status "and similar legislation."

Sablan, whose efforts helped a CNMI-specific provision on S. 744, said he has not seen Ogumoro's resolution.

"But I remain committed to keeping families together and to protecting the Northern Mariana Islands' economy with policies such as those which I had included in the comprehensive immigration bill that the U.S. Senate has already passed and which have bipartisan support in the House," the delegate told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ogumoro said Thursday that S. 744's Section 2109 violates the Covenant that established the relationship between the Northern Marianas and the United States.

She also asked the U.S. House not to act on similar legislation "which will allow thousands of alien workers, their families and persons of other ethnic origin or race who are in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to become U.S. permanent residents and subsequently become U.S. citizen." *See Ogumoro's speech on Page 13*

S. 744 is a U.S.-Senate passed comprehensive immigration reform bill that provides pathway to citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens in the United States.

The U.S. House of Representatives has not acted on S. 744 yet nor introduced its own sweeping immigration reform bill.

The bill's Section 2109, at Sablan's request, provides a pathway to U.S. permanent residency and citizenship for thousands of long-term alien workers in the CNMI.

During Thursday afternoon's session, Ogumoro delivered a one-page speech while introducing her resolution.

She said Section 2109 of S. 744 particularly violates Section 103 of the Covenant which reads, "The people of the Northern Mariana Islands will have the right of local self-government, and will govern them-

selves with respect to internal affairs in accordance with a constitution of their own adoption."

CNMI immigration is now under federal control.

Bonifacio Sagana, president of Dekada Movement, said many in the community support not only continued access to skilled and professional foreign workers but also improved status for long-term foreign workers.

Sagana said the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the new administration and other sectors support S. 744's CNMI-specific provision.

"I would think that the representative is using this for her re-election once again. Maybe she thinks this will give her votes.

But people now have a better and broader understanding of the CNMI economy's needs and the future of the CNMI," Sagana said.

Sagana added that while the United States is gearing toward providing pathway to citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens on the mainland, Ogumoro would not support improving the lot of legal, long-term aliens in the CNMI.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) referred

Ogumoro's resolution to the Committee on Foreign and Federal Relations for review.

Ogumoro, in her speech, said Section 2109 of S. 744 will have a devastating effect on the Chamorros and Carolinians of Northern Marianas descent, "who have always aspired to maintain their autonomy and be self-governing, a right that is guaranteed and protected under the Covenant."

"This section will change and disrupt the social, political and economic livelihood and aspirations of the Chamorros and Carolinians. They will lose control of that right to govern themselves, becoming marginalized in the process. The Chamorros and Carolinians will become a powerless minority in their own native land," she added.

So far, Ogumoro's resolution has these co-sponsors: Reps. Antonio Agulto (Ind-Saipan), Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan), John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan), Richard Seman (R-Saipan), Tony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), George Camacho (R-Saipan), Larry Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan), and Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan).

CFL giveaway on Tinian, Rota

The CNMI Energy Division will be hosting another distribution of compact fluorescent lamps, or CFL's, under the Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

to provide individuals residing on Tinian and Rota the opportunity to receive free energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFL's to replace inefficient light bulbs to help

reduce their home's energy consumption and to encourage and promote energy conservation within the CNMI.

The EECBG staff will be distributing energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFL's and reusable bags to each residential consumer at the following

...and also on Saipan

The CNMI Energy Division will be hosting another distribution of compact fluorescent lamps, or CFL's, under the Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant to provide Saipan residents the opportunity to receive free energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFL's to replace inefficient light bulbs to help reduce their home's energy consumption and to encourage and promote energy conservation within the CNMI.

The EECBG staff will be distributing energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFL's and reusable bags to each residential consumer at the DPW/Energy Division Block Grant Office

located at the Springs Development Plaza along Chalan Pale Arnold Rd. (Middle Road).

The event will be held from Sept. 17 to Sept. 20, from 8:30am to 4:30pm on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies lasts. Two reusable bags containing 16 CFL's will be issued per household.

In order to receive CFL's and reusable bags, residential consumers must present a valid identification card with photo and a copy of their most recent CUC utility bill with their name on the billing. Businesses are not eligible to participate in the event. (*Office of the Governor*)

Military training at Warning Area 517, FFM

The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Sept. 19 and 21, from 4pm to 11pm.

The military will also conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Sept. 16 and 18: 10:30am to 10pm
- Sept. 17: 11am to 5pm
- Sept. 20: 8am to 2pm

The general location of the

training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (*PR*)

locations:

ON TINIAN: The event will be held on Sept. 24, from 8:30am to 4:30pm and on Sept. 25, from 8:30am to 4pm on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies lasts. Two reusable bags containing 16 CFL's will be issued per household.

ON ROTA: The event will be held on Sept. 26, from 8:30am

to 4:30pm and on Sept. 27, from 8:30am to 4pm on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies lasts. Two reusable bags containing 16 CFL's will be issued per household.

In order to receive CFL's and reusable bags, residential consumers must present a valid identification card with photo and a copy of their most recent CUC utility bill

with their name on the billing. Businesses are not eligible to participate in the event.

For inquiries and complete information on the terms and conditions of the program, contact the Department of Public Works, Division of Energy – Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant office at 664-4487/89/90. (*Office of the Governor*)



CAREER FAIR

If you are a DYNAMIC individual and looking for a job or a new career in a hospitality and casino industry, COME and STOP by our

We are now hiring:

Airport Representatives Guest Service Representatives Guest Relation Officer VIP Hosts Surveillance Operators Cage Tellers Casino Dealers	Accounting Clerks Cooks Waitstaff (Waiter/Waitress) Bar Attendant Life Guards Housekeeping Attendant Security Officer	Computer Technician Storekeeper A/C Technicians Plumber Electrician Mechanic Carpenter
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Other positions are also available.

Be prepared, bring your resume and all pertinent documents, and come to IMPRESS and READY for interview.

We hope to see you at :

TINIAN
September 18, 2013
10am to 4pm
Dynasty Court (Chinese Restaurant)
Tinian Dynasty Hotel Lobby

SAIPAN
September 19, 2013
10am to 5pm
Chamolinian Room
Hyatt Regency - Saipan



UNITED STATES
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
 COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities is hereby gives notice that it will hold a 3rd Quarter General Membership Meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2013, from 8:00am – 12:00pm at the Charley's Room, Pacific Islands Club - Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – June 21, 2013
- V. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Executive Director's Employment Contract Renewal: Ratification
 - b. Approval of Proposed Rules & Regulation of Commonwealth Respite Services Program (CRSP): Ratification
 - c. Approval of Amendment of Council's By-laws
- VI. REPORT
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Executive Director
 - c. Fiscal Committee Chairperson
 - d. State Plan Committee Chairperson
- VII. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Summer Camp Update
 - b. Paratransit System Update - COTA
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. VOAD Conference
 - b. NDEAM Activities
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- X. MISCELLANEOUS
 - a. Guest Presentation (Karen Tydingco & Bridgette Camacho, U.S. Social Security)
- XI. NEXT MEETING
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

Note: Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 13(a) 7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 5 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or 3 minutes oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
 Chairman

This ad was paid for by funds from the DD Basic Grant Part A (Administrative)



The Saipan Chamber of Commerce
 has an opening for

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a private, non-profit organization. Its purpose is to further the interests of business, as well as to promote quality of life and economic progress, in Saipan.

The **Executive Director** reports directly to the Chamber Board of Directors and manages and administers the Chamber Office.

Responsibilities:

- Manage the Chamber office and serve as custodian of Chamber funds
- Organize and attend Board of Directors meetings and Committee meetings and activities
- Plan and coordinate Chamber activities throughout the year
- Coordinate internal and external communications
- Prepare monthly newsletter
- Maintain Chamber websites
- Research pending legislative bills and prepare comments
- Respond to inquiries from members, non-members, residents, tourists, prospective businesses and others
- Promote Chamber membership within the business community

The applicant must have the following minimum qualifications:

- Resident of the CNMI/USA
- BA in Business Administration or equivalent
- Strong work ethic and customer service orientation
- Self-motivating
- Ability to work with a team
- Excellent organization and office skills
- Experience with computer systems/software (spreadsheets, word processing, desktop publishing)

Chamber office hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday; however, this is a salaried position and hours will vary.

Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. Qualified individuals should submit a resume and application to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office, 1st floor, Family Building in Garapan or contact 233-7150 for more information. Deadline for submission is September 20, 2013.

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 184

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Trying diplomacy in Syria

When President Obama asked Congress to authorize a military attack against Syria, he said the goal was to "hold the Assad regime accountable for their use of chemical weapons, deter this kind of behavior and degrade their capacity to carry it out."

Can the same objectives be accomplished through diplomacy? In his address to the nation Tuesday, Obama announced that he would pursue that possibility, even as he reserved the option of military action. That was the right call, but the diplomatic track must not be allowed to become a long and winding road to nowhere.

What's under discussion is a Russian proposal for "international control" of Syria's chemical weapons and their "subsequent destruction." It was broached by Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov after Secretary of State John F. Kerry suggested that Assad might avert U.S. military action by turning over "every single bit of his chemical weapons to the international community in the next week." Kerry added: "But he isn't about to do it, and it can't be done, obviously." Then Syrian officials endorsed the idea and even suggested Syria would sign the Chemical Weapons Convention.

An agreement that would truly put Syria's chemical weapons "beyond use" would be a preferable alternative to military action. It would reaffirm the international condemnation of chemical warfare and might prove just as successful as airstrikes in preventing future atrocities by the Assad government. It might even have a deterrent effect on other nations considering the use of nonconventional weapons.

But will it work? Kerry has said that the United States seeks a "full resolution" of the U.N. Security Council, an apparent reference to a so-called Chapter 7 resolution that would authorize member states to use military force to implement it. So far Russia, which has veto power on the council, has resisted that approach. Even if the council were to approve a muscular resolution, Assad's past mendacity in dealings with U.N. representatives raises concerns that he would obstruct weapons inspectors—who would be performing their duties in the midst of a civil war.

Their jobs would not be easy. Monitors would need some measure of protection from the wars violence, and the process of identifying and destroying the weapons would have to be verifiable. There would also have to be serious consequences for noncompliance so that the process wouldn't become a farce or a cat-and-mouse game reminiscent of the long effort to inspect Saddam Hussein's supposed weapons of mass destruction.

Notwithstanding these concerns, Obama's decision to explore a diplomatic solution is a prudent one. We continue to believe that the use of chemical weapons against civilians requires a response from this country, ideally in concert with other nations. But, like the president, we hope that message can be effectively delivered other than by military might.

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Finding power vs administering it

However preliminary, it's good to scrutinize prospective gubernatorial prospects' credentials and experience. I'm interested to see how they'd discharge their fiduciary duties upon securing the most coveted seat in the CNMI.

Central to this review is the question of whether finding power is synonymous to administering it as titular head? In other words, you may secure victory (power) but can you administer or dispose of matters of state? What's the guarantee that you could translate your plans into meaningful programs for the multitude?

While one could boast of his power, he also could easily be dismissive of his true north as to ignore—and therefore fail—in his fiduciary obligation to improve the lot of his people. Take a quick glimpse into our recent past. To say that the impeached former governor's tenure was an abysmal failure is an understatement. Let's not repeat history!

Now, the Legislature impeached the former governor for allegedly working up a secret power plant deal that would only benefit his friends at the expense of local consumers and for ordering alleged obstruction of justice. Must it not also take critical ocular review if there's an infraction in the constitutionally protected pension funds? Isn't the NMI a "government of laws?"

Do we now cherry pick constitutional and statutory laws and simply refuse to follow them (fidelity to the rule of law) because we find them political and fiscal nuisances? Is political punditry promoting a statist (dictatorial) government as the way forward?

Chasing the wind

We gather with joy around a "new" family car. We even smell the fresh scent of new upholstery, boast of "new" shoes and wardrobe, "new" appliances, and everything else perceptually "new." Why not, you've earned it.

My son bought this dad of Glucophage the newest Apple laptop with superior speed and applications. It takes time to learn it. I only wanted a computer for my purposes—turn it on, write, write and write, surf the Internet, and send or receive emails then shut it off! Screw video games and Skype. Someone made this hi-tech device when most of us were busy hammering away on the old Royal, Underwood, or IBM typewriters. It isn't new anymore!

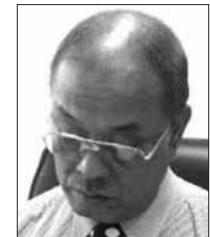
On slow days I'd plunge into fully researched materials on issues, comparing what one author or researchers say, the differing views, points of disagreement and agreement; and which argument could stand on its own. It's a good way to expand your horizon. The issues aren't anything new either, except their evolving into controversies and national conversations.

In its simplest form, we enjoy anything that we perceive as "new." But as I review whether anything is really "new," it's disappointing

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



to learn that none meets the definition of the adjective in discussion.

For instance, we wake up to a "new" day where the sun rises in the east and disappears out west. I've never seen this pattern change. It stays the same and about the only time I'd worry is when the sun rises out west at dawn. As such, it isn't anything "new" but more like just "another" day to contend with.

Global floods have run out to sea and sink in the deep blue. Never have I seen the lagoon rising beyond normal. Thus, I've never seen a reverse flood because the ocean is overflowing with more than its share of water from inland. It never happened and will never happen. So the natural flow of water from land to sea isn't new either.

The color of the ocean is blue, even the dome upstairs. It has been, still is, and will always be blue. The day it turns red, it's time to line up along the shore for one final "adios," fittingly at dusk.

Why is it that anything we throw up comes down? How come it never stays up? It comes earthward quicker than a blink of an eye. It's the natural law of gravity, true? It's nothing new!

The land in this archipelago has been around since our ancestral days more than 5,000 years ago. Our ancestors came and left, followed by their siblings who also came and left. We're here to make a repeat of history or cycle. I've never heard that they took a parcel of land when they left. The land is still and will be here even beyond our time. This hasn't and will never change. So there's nothing new up this alley either.

Why is it that a wise man and a fool are both buried under the same dirt? This hasn't changed, has it? Well, have you any "new" idea that isn't already done beside the endless chase of the wind that blows from east to west? There's nothing new under the sun. Period!

Reclaiming these isles

If all goes well, the Chamoru *sakman* from San Diego ought to be making landfall here sometime next year. It's basically a trip in cultural revival or rediscovery of ancestral mode of navigation, sailing the vast expanse of the Pacific as the global village works on technological advances sailing among the stars.

See POWER on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unreasonable and unconscionable

About two to three years ago, the CNMI Retirement Fund reached that stage where its ability to continue providing pensions to retirees was in jeopardy. There were several reasons for this predicament. The first and most obvious was the failure of the CNMI government to pay its share of the money it owes the Fund—for at least 10 years. As a result, during the past three to four years, the Fund began using the fund corpus, which was being invested in the various national and international money markets. Like a water catchment tank where no water is being infused, the Fund's money well began to dry up. There are also other reasons for the sorry predicament the Fund found itself in, such as the overly generous amounts being paid to a number of retirees, and the increasing number of members who began retiring—further depleting the Fund assets at a faster rate.

Such was the background of the Fund's sorry financial situation. Into this backdrop, there emerged a number of legal actions taken by certain retirees, including that filed by Betty Johnson. One of the legal actions taken was the petition to place the Fund in federal bankruptcy court. This action failed because the federal bankruptcy law does not have jurisdiction over the CNMI government since it is not a "municipal corporation." Another case was filed in the CNMI Superior Court, essentially to try and force the CNMI government to pay the money it owes the Fund. The sum owing the Fund ranges—depending on who you talk to—from \$300 million to \$500 million.

During the past year, the class action case filed by Betty Johnson began to gather steam and soon became the vehicle for the present lawsuit against the CNMI government filed in the NMI District Court. This case recently came out with a settlement agreement between Johnson's counsels and the CNMI government represented by the attorney general. The government acknowledged the basic fact that it does owe the Fund over \$300 million but that it could only pay the Fund so much, each year. As to this fact then, there is really nothing complex, complicated or difficult to understand, either as a matter of fact or as a matter of law.

Manpower planning

Last week I made an anecdotal comment about a human event of shooting first then aiming later in response to Mr. Ambrose Bennett's ill-conceived thoughts about the economics of a sea vessel. I received an email from a friend asking me what I meant about this anecdotal statement. Well, this week the CPA board, based on the recommendation of the Rota representative to the board asking for four or five FTEs for their ports operations, approved that request subject to the availability of funds. If this request is not the subject of a human resource plan, then this action follows the derivative of shooting first then aiming later. Apparently, the request is nothing more than guesswork, thus an indication of a very loosely structured human resources management system. And, obviously in human resource management in the public sector, this is the last step of the recruitment and selection process. Thus shooting first, then aiming later.

An organization ensures that it has the right number and kind of people, at the right place, at the right time, capable of effectively and efficiently completing those tasks that will help the organization achieve its overall objectives. This human resource plan translates the organization's objectives and plans into the number of workers needed to meet those objectives. The predictability of the operation of a business unit in an organization provides a good foundation for the assurances that, notwithstanding other random factor impact, such measure of needs could be ascertained in a plan of action. You would agree that without a studied plan, the CPA board does not have any justification to even entertain such a request. So the need for a studied human resource plan is essential because only through this exercise will the governing board be able to see and ascertain all of CPA's human resource needs. The plan assures forecasting CPA's future demand for and supply of the right type of people in the right number by keeping in mind the current scene. It is only after forecasting that the HR department of CPA can initiate recruitment and selection process. Without clear-cut planning estimation of CPA's human resource needs, what all this amounts to is pure guesswork.

In manpower planning, the formula is very simple: Current personnel level minus outflows plus inflows equals internal supply of personnel by particular positions. From this simplistic forecasting approach, the inflows represent employees being processed as transfer in and/or promotion in. The outflows means the summation of resignations, discharges, demotions, retirements, promotions, and uncompensated man-hours. If the plan signify surpluses of person-

The next thing that was considered by Johnson's lawyers and the CNMI government is whether the amount being paid the retirees each year should be cut by 25 percent, so as to prolong the life of the Fund, with the hope (and it is all hope) that the economy would turn around and the government could pay more for what it owes the Fund. This suggestion, which the parties to the class action lawsuit agreed to, however, was not like discovering one of the chemical elements in the chemistry periodic table. It was just a simple, common sense suggestion, because of the precarious financial condition the CNMI government was and still is in. Any high school student could come up with this suggestion. Which begs the question: So what is really complicated about the case?

The third matter that the parties did was to put all of these agreements in writing, so that the CNMI government would be obligated to pay up what it owes the retirees. What is so complicated about putting all these agreements down in the form of a "stipulated" agreement and order for the court to review and sign is beyond me. Any of the high school mock court teams in the CNMI could do this. The word "stipulated" should not throw off anyone of us. It only means to agree formally—that's all.

Having stated all of the foregoing, the next thing that happens in this case was a bombshell for all of us. The class action plaintiff's counsels submitted their billings for the work they did in the case. And all hell breaks loose! Why? Because in the billings they submitted to the court for approval, they are asking the court to approve an astronomical sum of over \$37 million. After having suggested the 25-percent reduction in the pension the retirees are receiving, plaintiff's counsels then turn around and are asking the court to essentially give them the money that the retirees are giving up. How insensitive plaintiff's counsels are! How greedy and inconsiderate! And how unconscionable their billing submissions are! Now we are seeing their true colors. It is lawyers like these that give the legal profession an ugly name.

So what is meant by "lodestar" and how does one pick a "multiplier of 15" to arrive at roughly \$37 million? Counsel's hourly rate

then the human resource management system would deal with this situation by restricting hiring, reducing hours, layoffs, and instituting other job modification actions to smooth out the impact of cost of personnel. If a shortage is imminent then obviously this triggers a justified need to recruit and select for the purpose of keeping a healthy mix of personnel to achieve the stated mission and objective of the organization. Hence, as you can see, the human resource plan is an essential tool and instrument that assures the success of CPA's objectives. The question is, does CPA have such a plan at its disposal that would justify the request of the Rota representative for additional FTE's for the Rota ports?

Any competent human resource manager familiar with the science and best practice of human resource management would be cognizant of several techniques and principles on forecasting human resource needs. One that comes to mind is using management judgment. In this approach, managers at all levels sit together and forecast based on their own judgment. This can be a top-down approach or bottom-up approach, and the judgments could be reviewed across departments, divisions and top management, which conclude on the final figures. This is the favored approach in most cases as the final decisions are all based on consensus. It has its own advantages and drawbacks as well. Other techniques may include ratio trend analysis, work study techniques, Delphi techniques, and flow models, just to name a few. When the human resource plan is put together with all these mind it should ensure the success of the recruitment and selection, training and development, retraining and redeployment, fortification of the retention program, aids in deciding downsizing/rightsizing efforts, and control and evaluation of the human resource management system of the organization. Through these processes CPA and any other autonomous and non-autonomous departments, agencies, and corporations would assure the actual employers of public employees of these islands that the human resource management practices and culture are being placed in the hands of competent public officials. It would be a moral and ethical travesty for those chosen few who are charged with governance of the affairs of this government to ignore this important and critical aspect of human resource management. But, then again, who cares that we are trying to say: Houston we have a problem.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

of \$325-\$350 per hour is already a premium rate in and of itself. Only the very rich could afford this rate. But to multiply this premium rate by a factor of 15 means that counsel's hourly rate would effectively be about \$5,250 per hour! Is this reasonable? Clearly not. Is this outrageous? Absolutely!

And the irony of it all is for class plaintiff's counsels to justify their outrageous fee submission by saying that the case is complicated, complex, and so forth. What is so complicated about a case where the government fails to pay its share of the contribution to the Fund? What is so complicated about entering into an agreement for the retirees' pension to be reduced by 25 percent until the Fund corpus improves? Yes, Ms. Bronster, Mr. Jorgensen, and Mr. Woodruff, what is so complex and complicated about that, that you somehow believe you also have to milk the retirees with a legal rate of \$5,250 per hour?

I just hope and pray that Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has more sense than any of you three. I hope and pray that the judge will see the baselessness of the legal fees you are asking her to approve.

Enfin Serafin!

Alexandro 'The Colonel' Sablan
Dandan, Saipan

Clarification

This letter is to further clarify the statement I made during the Senate session on Sept. 11, 2013, regarding the outrageous attorney's fees that the counsels for Betty Johnson and the class action suit are seeking. It is true that I've raised the idea to encourage retirees to circulate a petition to express their desire not to be part of the class action lawsuit as opposed to having active members withdrawing their contribution. However, legislation needs to be in place to provide protection for those who opt out of the settlement agreement. Toward that end, I am leaving the decision to each active member of the Retirement Fund to make their own choice whether to stay with the settlement agreement or opt out and withdraw their contribution.

I am encouraged, however, with the discussions Thursday during the meeting with the governor, the members of the House of Representatives and the members of the Senate. It was decided that we will work together to address this problem with the assurance that there will be full cooperation by everyone. It is refreshing to know that when there is a need to assemble all elected officials to work collaboratively to address the people's issues, personal differences, agendas and political identity are put aside. Only by working together can we overcome obstacles threatening the people of the Commonwealth.

Sen. Pete P. Reyes
Capital Hill, Saipan

Two Betty Johnsons

The Betty Johnson that is suing the Retirement Fund is a former employee of CHC who lives in Hawaii. Betty Camacho Wesley Hamilton Johnson, my wife, lives on Saipan and has never worked for the CNMI government. Please stop calling our house in Gualo Rai.

Michael S. Johnson
Managing Partner
Deloitte & Touche LLC

POWER

From Page 10

When the *sakman* arrives, it should choose the beach in Garapan as its entry. If upon arrival it doesn't find immigration and customs officials, the crew ought to raise the Chamoru flag and declare reclamation of the island.

The captain ought to loudly announce, "We claim this island in the name of our Chief Hurau for our indigenous people." I could hear spectators smarting, "We've always been here, sir!" But it's a journey of the present about the past. Humor aside, it's heartwarming the cultural resurgence from our brothers and sisters all over.

Traditional or arcane it may be, let the *sakman* or *galaide* be our vehicle to navigating and perpetuating our peoplehood, anchored in our indigenous language. It grants strength, character, and a more powerful sense of purpose as we face the challenges of the new century.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Palau	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 90 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲ 60 ▼ 51
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 64
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 79
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 75
London	Showers	▲ 58 ▼ 47
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 66
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 67 ▼ 51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 60
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 79 ▼ 65
Paris	Showers	▲ 60 ▼ 47
Pusan	Windy	▲ 77 ▼ 65
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 65
Salem	Thundershowers	▲ 73 ▼ 59
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 59
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 62
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 64
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 64

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
4:46 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet
11:57 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.1 Feet
6:48 PM	Today	High Tide: 1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:06 AM	6:18 PM	Today	3:37 PM	2:36 AM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM	Tuesday	4:26 PM	3:36 AM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:16 PM	Wednesday	5:13 PM	4:34 AM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:16 PM	Thursday	5:58 PM	5:31 AM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM	Friday	6:43 PM	6:27 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

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Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

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Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

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Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.

Photos must have been taken in the last two months.

For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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HOW TO SUBMIT

E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.

Fax: (670) 235-3740

Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950

Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

OPINION

Pathway to citizenship violates Covenant

Editor's Note: The following is the entire text of remarks the author delivered on the floor of the House during Thursday's session.

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues: The Covenant Agreement which established the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union with the United States of America must be honored at all times. However, Section 2109 of U.S. Senate Bill 744 (Long-Term Legal Residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), which seeks a pathway to citizenship for more than 13,000 alien workers and other groups in the CNMI, and was passed by the Senate and is now awaiting action by the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, Section 2109 of U.S. Senate Bill 744 violates the Covenant Agreement. Article 1, Section 105 provides: "The United States may enact legislation in accordance with the constitutional processes which will be applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands... In order to respect the right of self-government guaranteed by this Covenant, the United States agrees to limit the exercise of that authority so that the fundamental provisions of this Cov-

enant, namely Articles I, II, & III and Sections 501 and 805, may be modified only with the consent of the Government of the United States and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands."

In particular, Section 103 of the Covenant provides: "The people of the Northern Mariana Islands will have the right of local self-government, and will govern themselves with respect to internal affairs in accordance with a constitution of their own adoption."

The 2010 Census data shows that the combined total of Chamorros and Carolinians of Northern Marianas descent in the CNMI was 15,363, or 29 percent only of the total population of 53,883. If passed, Section 2109 of Senate Bill 744 will have a devastating effect on the Chamorros and Carolinians of Northern Marianas descent, who have always aspired to maintain their autonomy and be self-governing, a right that is guaranteed and protected under the Covenant. This section will change and disrupt the social, po-

litical, and economic livelihood and aspirations of the Chamorros and Carolinians. They will lose control of that right to govern themselves, becoming marginalized in the process. The Chamorros and Carolinians will become a powerless minority in their own native land.

Our right to self-governance, to determine our own destiny, is what Filipino national hero Jose Rizal fought and died for, for his people. It is a desire also reflected in the very similar experiences of the Native Americans of North America; the Fijians; the Aborigines of Australia; the Maori of New Zealand; the Native Hawaiians, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, the very people we have been elected to protect need our help. And as their leaders, I am respectfully asking that you please support the adoption of this resolution, and allow the Chamorros and Carolinians to continue to exercise and enjoy their right to control the destiny of their islands.



By FELICIDAD T. OGUMORO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

as the attitude of trying to remain small and get big returns *does not* work in our economic system.

If you ask our youth, especially the ones who are putting their lives on the line in the military for other people they don't know so they can be treated equal, how do they feel about mainland citizens not being treated equally in the CNMI? We know the answer and it should sound alarm bells to get busy being more like America. All I can say is that if the hearts, spirits and loss of life of our youth don't touch and change people's minds about Article 12, then we can only pray for divine intervention! So I ask, will the CNMI be America or will we continue to struggle for the lack of a better cause?

P.S.: Locals who fear changing Article 12 need to drop their expired attitudes and take the new American attitude and approach of "we can do a *better* job than the Hawaiians" instead of perpetuating a horrible economic policy and fear to change. Change is a phenomenon that can *never* be stopped.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Letter to the Editor

To be or not to be America!

I must first thank Mr. Gerald S. A. Perez, chairman of the board of the Guam Chamber of Commerce, for his unknowing verification of my statements on our economy and how Article 12 is at the very core of our inability to grow economically. I said U.S. investors don't want to touch the CNMI and now it's confirmed by another source. I have often pondered the actual expectations of the local people when they asked to part of America and one can only assume they wanted the same quality of life as what people experience in the mainland. With that being said, I would beg to offer the following for readers' supposition. If the expectations were to be like America as much as possible, then why is there so much opposition to the American way? If there were proven local economic theories I'm sure we would have tried them by now but there aren't. However, the CNMI is against one of the core tenets of American economic theories, American values and American rights—the right to own property and the right of private land owners to free enterprise.

Another recent example of this fight against the CNMI being America is the recent bill to create a unicameral legislature. From what I know of America, there is

no state that has a unicameral legislature. There is also the fact that a unicameral legislature greatly reduces the checks and balances in government, which I'm sure the people and the federal government will not allow. But it goes to show how the thinking on the Hill is still trying to take the CNMI further and further away from the goal of being *as much as possible* like America. I must also thank Sen. Frank M. Borja for letting the lower House know how hopeless it is to change the very structure of our government and I applaud Rep. Chris for trying but reduction in numbers does not mean restructuring our government.

Locals are leaving the CNMI for the mainland as fast as they can because they have the expectation of and wanting to live in America. So I must ask, why do our leaders keep trying to make the CNMI less and less America while the feds and local people have the expectations of the CNMI someday becoming more like the rest of America, with good jobs and salaries and a high quality of social life. I said a long time ago that all the little fish get eaten by the big fish, so the CNMI must learn to grow big.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

LOCAL

KINPACHI RESTAURANT

33 years of quality food, service



Kinpachi Restaurant as it stood 33 years ago in 1980.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Kinpachi Restaurant has grown into a 100-seat food extravaganza that is as synonymous to Hotel Street as other famous establishments in the tourist district.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Since 1980, Kinpachi Restaurant has been synonymous to Hotel Street as any of the landmark establishments in the area.

Its secret: Quality food and hard-not-to-notice location that has been the standard, if not the envy, of the island's restaurants for decades.

Established 33 years ago by Yoshio Kamata, Kinpachi has grown from a little nook in the heart of Saipan's tourist district into a 100-seat food extravaganza, thanks in part to Yama-ta's daughter Misako, who took over the business in 1987.

"It's not really a secret. Maybe we've been very successful for several reasons. For one, our business place is easy to find and has access to walk-in customers from Hyatt Regency Saipan and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan," said Misako.

Kinpachi also makes it a point to only serve quality food to its loyal customers. It is famous for its noodles like the miso ramen, hot ramen, ten-zaru soba, tempura, breaded shrimp, and sushi rolls.

"Our menu is simple, typical Japanese family dishes at affordable prices," said Misako.

Having excellent service is

also something the restaurant takes seriously.

"We make sure we have very good service everyday and give our customers reasons to come back and for them to recommend our restaurant to others. We want to make sure that our customers have a great time here."

Another key to Kinpachi's success, Misako said, is their cooks' ability to adapt to the times and reinvent their food offerings.

"We create new menus for our customers' satisfaction. We listen to their requests and try

CONTACT INFO
Tel: 233-7715

to make changes if necessary."

That innovation also carries over to the restaurants' non-Japanese customers.

"We are known as a Japanese restaurant serving authentic Japanese dishes we but don't only cater to Japanese tourists. We also give attention and consider other nationalities like Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Russian, and the locals of Saipan."

While locals seem to prefer tempura, sashimi, breaded shrimp, katsudon, and chicken teriyaki, Chinese tourists like fresh seafood and grilled dish-

es. Sushi rolls and fresh sashimi, meanwhile, are favorites of Russian tourists.

Kinpachi recently extended its kitchen and dining area to accommodate more customers. In early 2013, the restaurant also opened Kinpachi Beer Garden in partnership with MARPAC, Inc. and Budweiser. It is open from 6pm to 12pm.

As Kinpachi celebrates its 33rd anniversary this month, Misako said, "I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the continued patronage and support from the community. It is the vital part of my business growth as it has grown considerably for the last 33 years."

To give back to the community, Misako created the non-profit organization, PDM Promoters, Inc., to help out the community, especially the Paseo de Marianas with its monthly cleanups. PDM Promoters also bankrolls the Saipan Awaodori Team,

"As a successful business owner I feel that I have responsibility to help and contribute to the common good. I want this island to be something that these children will be proud of when they grow up," she said.

Kinpachi is open Monday to Sunday from 7am to 11pm. For more information and for reservations, call 233-7715.

Military in Guam participates in annual exercise

By JESSE LEON GUERRERO
JOINT REGION MARIANAS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ASAN, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam sailors and civilian personnel participated in Exercise Citadel Pacific 2013 on Sept. 10-12.

Citadel Pacific is an annual training exercise designed to enhance readiness of personnel and not in response to any specific threat.

Paul Cahill, a contractor supporting commander, Navy Installation Command's N7 Training and Readiness Directorate, said the threat of terrorism is a very real one that we have to be ready for.

"We have to demonstrate that we're ready by performing and executing our plans and pre-plan responses in a very realistic environment that matches what they can see as an operational environment," he said. "Then be able to take those lessons learned to improve the way we



A security craft from Naval Base Guam Harbor Security intercepts a mock aggressor craft during Citadel Pacific 2013, Sept. 11. The exercise presented various scenarios and helped train harbor security sailors in responding to an actual threat to naval assets.

U.S. NAVY/TIMOTHY WILSON

train, the way we equip our force and the way we modify our plans and procedures."

Several scenarios conducted in the week included a boat attack at Sierra and Tango piers, alarm responses and active shooter exercises at the NBG headquarters and Polaris Point. The base also increased its security level at the entrance gates at different times of the exercise.

"Participants respond to the challenge and their capabilities are way above average right now," said NBG installation training officer Olympio Mafogna. "We can feel really safe when we're down here at Naval Base Guam."

He said the exercise benefits the installations exercise planners and role-playing participants by giving them



Master-at-Arms Seaman Luke Campbell and Patrolman Gil Mendiola, of U.S. Naval Base Guam Security, respond to a shooting and explosion training scenario at Polaris Point, as part of Exercise Citadel Pacific 2013 in Piti, Guam, on Sept. 12.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO

the opportunity to train for potential threats.

Joint Region Marianas and NBG tenant commands such as Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 also participated in the exercise.

NBG Security and CRG-1 Det. Guam partnered to conduct an active shooter exercise in front of the submarine tender *USS Frank Cable*. A security response team responded to the situation and engaged in a mock firefight with the shooters.

"It gives us an idea of how to counteract that [threat]," Campbell said. "We've got to be more precise."

utes after a simulated vehicle-borne improvised explosive device was set off.

Master-at-Arms 1st Class Isiah Douglas, of NBG Security, was part of the team that took down the suspects and said he would like to see the exercise done more often as it is a good experience for junior security members to practice being consistent and shooting on the move.

"It's just a process of training them, getting them more ready," Douglas said. "All of that comes with time."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Darrin Campbell, of CRG-1 Det. Guam, said the exercise allowed him to take a different perspective of an individual involved in an active shooter situation as he played the role of an attacker.

"It gives us an idea of how to counteract that [threat]," Campbell said. "We've got to be more precise."

NBG, Tenant Commands promote new chiefs

By JESSE LEON GUERRERO
JOINT REGION MARIANAS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ASAN, Guam—Sixteen sailors stationed in Guam were among the first in the Navy in 2013 to accept the rank and responsibility of chief petty officer at a pinning ceremony at Top O' the Mar in Asan, Guam, on Sept. 13.

Chief selects from U.S. Naval Base Guam, Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, Joint Region Marianas, Naval Special Warfare Unit 1, and Naval Operations Support Center Guam were welcomed to the Navy's chiefs' mess.

The guest speaker, NSWU-1 Command Master Chief Carl Denger, led the audience in thanking the family members of the chief selects and said they should be proud of their achievements.

"We have great leaders, as smart and dedicated sailors in

all ranks just like you," he said. "Lean on each other, teach, train, coach, reward, build each other up. Now you have the chiefs' mess to lean on. You can leverage that pool of talent and resources and all the skills, leadership and experience of the guys who've walked the road before you."

Denger encouraged the chief selects to make the right decisions when faced with challenges, highlighting issues such as sexual assault, terrorism, budget constraints, post-traumatic stress and suicide.

Following the keynote address, dozens of family members and friends took part in the ceremony by attaching gold anchor pins to their loved one's khaki uniforms. The chief selects' sponsors also placed combination covers on each of their heads after they were called to the front of the room.

Chief Operations Special-

ist Sean Cadet, of JRM, said becoming a chief petty officer meant he is now part of an exclusive fellowship. Cadet thanked his wife for her support since his enlistment 16 years ago and said that the chiefs he served under also made an impact on his life.

"The way that they operate as a chief, leading from the front, always making wise decisions and the confidence that they display through daily operations is really impressive," he said. "It was something that inspired me to keep pressing forward."

Each sponsor chosen by the chief selects played an important role in preparing them for their career advancement. During the six weeks leading up to the ceremony, the chief selects trained under their sponsor's guidance in Phase II of the yearlong development program called CPO 365.

Chief Master-at-Arms Ron

Barcenas, of NOSC Guam, said he was proud to represent Guam's southern village of Merizo, where he grew up, and he could not have accomplished

the advancement without his family and mentors.

"What I'm looking forward to is to helping out our junior Sailors, to continue to men-

tor and guide them to the best of my ability," Barcenas said. "With the strength and guidance of the chiefs' mess, I'll carry that further."



Master-at-Arms Chief Israel Pineda, of Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam, receives his combination cover and anchors from his aunt, uncle and Navy mentors at a chief pinning ceremony at Top O' the Mar in Asan, Guam, on Sept. 13.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO



Chief Master-at-Arms Jasper Johnson, of Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam, receives his anchor pins from his family during a chief pinning ceremony at the Top O' the Mar in Asan, Guam Sept. 13.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO



Chief Master-at-Arms Blake Soller, of U.S. Naval Base Guam Security, receives his anchor pins from his son during a chief pinning ceremony at the Top O' the Mar in Asan, Guam, on Sept. 13.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Business

United to let lucky travelers fly on \$0 tickets

By JOSHUA FREED
AP AIRLINES WRITER

United Airlines said on Friday that it will honor the tickets it accidentally gave away for free.

The decision is good news for people who snapped up the tickets on Thursday after United listed airfares at \$0. Many customers got tickets for \$5 or \$10, paying only the cost of the Sept. 11 security fee.

The mistake was an especially good deal for any passengers who bought tickets for travel within the next week. For instance, a Houston-to-Washington Dulles flight for next weekend would have cost \$877, according to United's website on Friday.

Airlines have posted so-called mistake fares before. They generally decide on a case-by-case basis whether they'll honor the ticket. On Friday, United Continental Holdings Inc. said it was honoring the tickets "based on these specific circumstances." On Thursday, United said there

was an error in filing the fares to its computer system.

United would not say how many tickets it accidentally gave away, or how much the mistake cost. The wrong fares were available on its website for a few hours on Thursday. It eventually shut down bookings on the website until it could fix the problem.

Some passengers bought their tickets for flights on Friday, and then immediately checked in online and printed their boarding passes, figuring that would give them their best chance of being able to use their ticket.

Mike Nehmer bought a ticket for him and his wife to fly from Houston to San Francisco on Friday. But he chickened out after a United agent told him that his ticket would be rejected at the gate. He ended up changing his ticket to December.

"I decided it wasn't in my best interest to show up and be denied at the gate," he said. "I have a pretty unhappy wife, too."

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is marking the fifth anniversary of the Lehman Brothers collapse by trying to lay claim to an economic turnaround and warning Republicans against moves that he contends would risk a backslide.

His message to the GOP: Don't oppose raising the nation's debt limit, don't threaten to close down the government in a budget fight, and don't push to delay the health care law or starve it of federal money.

The economic emphasis, after weeks devoted to the Syrian crisis, begins coming into focus in a series of events kicked off by a Rose Garden speech Monday. It's a determined effort to confront public skepticism about his stewardship of the economy and to put down his marker for budget clashes with Congress in the weeks ahead.

The White House argues that

a better capitalized and better regulated financial sector is extending more credit, fueling an economy now able to withstand headwinds such as spending cuts and tax increases.

"You can draw this straight line from the health of the financial system to the ways the financial system impacts the economy," said Jason Furman, the chairman of Obama's Council of Economic Advisers.

Obama can point to a growing economy, rising housing prices, 35 straight months of hiring, a rebounding stock market and other signs of recovery.

Five years after the federal government stepped in and infused banks with \$245 billion in taxpayer money to avert a financial meltdown, the government has been paid back

nearly in full.

Sunday is the fifth anniversary of Lehman's bankruptcy, which was the largest in U.S. history. The firm's demise marked the beginning of the global financial crisis and was a major catalyst of the financial meltdown.

"We've put more people back to work, but we've also cleared away the rubble of crisis and laid the foundation for stronger and more durable economic

growth," Obama said during his recent trip to Russia.

"And as Congress takes up important decisions in the coming months, I'm going to keep making the case for the smart investments and fiscal responsibility that keep our economy growing, creates jobs and keeps the U.S. competitive. That includes making sure we don't



Obama

risk a U.S. default over paying bills we've already racked up."

Obama intends to highlight that progress to economists and other guests at the White House on Monday, and his National Economic Council is set to release a report detailing the economic advances.

Obama planned to discuss the economy as part of an interview airing Sunday on ABC's "This Week" and scheduled a speech Wednesday to the Business Roundtable, an association of CEOs from the biggest U.S. companies.

But the public is not convinced that the economy is on the mend. Only one-third say the economic system is more secure now than in 2008, and 52 percent say they disapprove of Obama's handling of the economy, according to a Pew Research Center poll. There is still plenty of pain to justify their pessimism.

Some employers see perks of hiring older workers

By MATT SEDENSKY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Older people searching for jobs have long fought back stereotypes that they lack the speed, technology skills and dynamism of younger applicants. But as a wave of baby boomers seeks to stay on the job later in life, some employers are finding older workers are precisely what they need.

"There's no experience like experience," said David Mintz, CEO of dairy-free products maker Tofutti, where about one-third of the workers are over 50. "I can't put an ad saying, 'Older people wanted,' but there's no comparison."

Surveys consistently show older people believe they experience age discrimination on the job market, and although unemployment is lower among older workers, long-term unemployment is far higher. As the American population and its labor force reshape, though, with a larger chunk of older workers, some employers are slowly recognizing their skill and experience.

About 200 employers, from Google to AT&T to MetLife, have signed an AARP pledge recognizing the value of experienced workers and vowing to consider applicants 50 and older.

One of them, New York-based KPMG, has found success with a high proportion of older workers, who bring experience that the company says adds credibility. The auditing, tax and advisory firm says older workers also tend to be more dedicated to staying with the



AP

In this photo taken Aug. 23, 2013, David Mintz poses for The Associated Press inside his business, Tofutti, in Cranford, N.J.

company, a plus for clients who like to build a relationship with a consultant they can count on to be around for years.

"Some Gen Ys and Millennials have this notion of, 'I will have five jobs in 10 years,'" said Sig Shirodkar, a human resources consultant with KPMG. "We're looking for ways to tame that beast."

Many employers find older workers help them connect with older clients. At the Vermont

Country Store in Rockingham, Vt., the average customer is now in their 60s, and about half of the business' 400 workers are over 50, coming from a range of professional backgrounds, often outside retail. "Having folks internally that are in the same demographic certainly

helps to create credibility and to have empathy for our customer," said Chris Vickers, the store's chief executive.

One such employee is 60-year-old Ashley Roland, who got a marketing job at the Vermont Country Store last year after the company she previously worked for shut down. She dreaded the thought of a marathon of unsuccessful interviews, but the store ended up recruiting her.

"When I was being hired, I didn't feel any kind of concern about my age," she said. "I believe in experience. I think you're crazy not to hire someone who's older."

Even when the customers themselves might not be seniors, employers find older

adults bring a level of life experience that helps them in their work. About 20 percent of the roughly 26,000 customer service, sales and technical support agents working for Miramar, Fla.-based Arise Virtual Solutions are 50 or older, and chief executive John Meyer said they often find ways to connect with the caller on the other end of the line.

"Having someone who is more senior, who has had some life scars, makes them much better at interacting with people," Meyer said. "This is a chance for them to use the skills that they have built up over their life."

The embrace of older workers by some companies comes as the country's demographics shift and a greater number of

people stay on the job later in life, some because of personal choice, others out of necessity after their retirement savings took a hit during the recession. Between 1977 and 2007, employment of workers 65 and older doubled, a trend that has stayed on track and is projected to continue as the massive baby boom generation moves toward old age. But long-term unemployment has plagued older adults: Nearly half of those 55 and older who find themselves jobless remain out of work for 27 weeks or more.

Many companies still tend to overlook older applicants. Peter Cappelli, a University of Pennsylvania professor who co-authored "Managing the Older Worker," said because the economy has remained relatively weak and demand for jobs has been so high, many employers haven't been pressed to directly recruit older individuals.

Stereotypes have prevailed. Hiring managers often still view older applicants as having lower job performance, higher absenteeism and accident rates, and less ability to solve problems and adapt to changes. But Cappelli said research has found older workers outpace younger ones in nearly every metric. And in jobs where age might be a detriment—say, a highly physical job beyond a particular older person's ability—seniors tend to exclude themselves from applying in the first place.

"The evidence is overwhelming that they're better," Cappelli said. "But the hiring managers are just going with their guts, and our guts are full of prejudice."

Paul Lugo, 69, of Kendall Lakes, Fla., has felt that prejudice. After decades of work in

business development and customer service at various companies, Lugo found himself unemployed about two years ago. He needs the money, but no one wants to hire him.

"I've been to every mall, I've gone to the TSA, I've gone through thousands of applications," he said, "but I get the same thing: 'Don't call us, we'll call you.'"

Lugo relies on occasional jobs as an extra in movies and television shows to supplement his Social Security check. He has even offered on job interviews to work for free for a week to prove he's worth hiring, but no one has taken him up on it.

"With my experience, I've learned so much," he said. "As a senior citizen, I have a lot to contribute to a company if they allow me, but they never give me a chance."

But older workers are just what Michelle Benjamin, CEO of TalentREADY, a New York-based consulting firm, is looking for. She holds open houses specifically aimed at recruiting them. About three-quarters of the company's senior employees are over 50. They often cost more to hire, Benjamin said, but they don't require much training or supervision, and end up paying for themselves with the quality of work.

"Clients are paying us to get to the bottom line really quickly," she said.

Mintz admits his own age, 82, fuels his support of older workers. But he echoes Cappelli, saying he sees daily proof among the older individuals he has hired at Cranford, N.J.-based Tofutti: Fewer absences, fewer mistakes, a greater ability to solve problems and a willingness to put in more hours.

Nation

Colo. rescuers urged some to leave flooded towns

BOULDER, Colo. (AP)—Rescue teams are warning people in some Colorado towns isolated by devastating flooding against remaining there, telling them that they could face weeks without basic supplies, including running water and electricity.

Helicopters and truck convoys of the National Guard carried the admonition Saturday into paralyzed canyon communities where thousands of stranded residents were eager to escape the Rocky Mountain foothills. But not everybody was willing to go. Dozens of people in hard hit Jamestown wanted to stay to watch over their homes.

Authorities made clear that residents who chose not to leave might not get another chance for a while. Rescuers won't go back for people who insist on staying, Boulder County Sheriff Joe Pelle said.

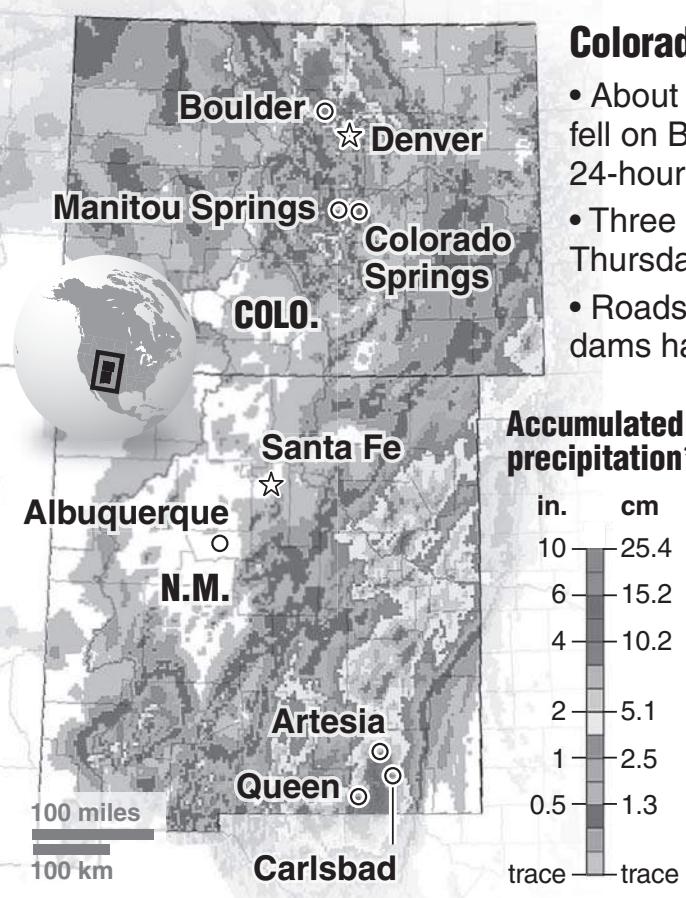
"We're not trying to force anyone from their home. We're not trying to be forceful, but we're trying to be very factual and definitive about the consequences of their decision, and we hope that they will come down," Pelle said.

Special education teacher Brian Shultz, 38, was torn about leaving his Jamestown home.

"I was thinking about staying. I could have lasted at least a year. I have a lot of training in wilderness survival," he said, adding that he probably had enough beer to last the whole time.

Heavy rain pummels West

Four days of heavy rain have created flooding emergencies in Colorado and New Mexico. Some of the details:



Source: NOAA, The Denver Post, Albuquerque Journal

Colorado

- About 6.8 in. (17 cm) of rain fell on Boulder, Colo., in a 24-hour period
- Three deaths reported Thursday; one person missing
- Roads and small earthen dams have failed

• Manitou Springs streets flooded

New Mexico

- Cities of Artesia, Carlsbad and Queen have seen more than 5 in. (13 cm) of rain over 24 hours

*24 hours ending at 7 a.m., ET, Sept. 12

Graphic: Robert Dorrell
© 2013 MCT

sunglasses as he compared his situation to that of his neighbors.

"At least all of our stuff's there and will be there when we get back. The people right by the river, their houses were washed away. Other people thought their houses were going to be OK, and then they started to go. It's just really devastating."

Across the foothills, rescuers made progress against the floodwaters. But they were still unable to go up many narrow canyon roads that were either underwater or washed out.

Meanwhile, President Barack Obama signed a disaster declaration and ordered federal aid for Colorado. The White House said in a statement Saturday night that the action makes federal funding available to affected individuals in Boulder

County. The government said that other counties could be added later.

On Saturday, the surge of water reached the plains east of the mountains, cutting off more communities and diverting some rescue operations.

Four people have been confirmed dead since the harrowing floods began Wednesday. And hundreds of others have not been heard from in the flood zone, which has grown to cover portions of an area nearly the size of Connecticut.

Some of those who are unaccounted for may be stranded or injured. Others might have gotten out but not yet contacted friends and relatives, officials said.

Police expected to find more bodies as the full scope of damage emerges.

World's oldest man dies in NY at age 112

GRAND ISLAND, N.Y. (AP)—The world's oldest man, a 112-year-old self-taught musician, coal miner and gin rummy aficionado from western New York, has died. He was 112.

Salustiano Sanchez-Blazquez died Friday at a nursing home in Grand Island, according to Robert Young, senior gerontology consultant with Guinness World Records.

Sanchez-Blazquez became the world's oldest man when Jiroemon Kimura died June 12 at age 116.

Born June 8, 1901, in village of El Tejado de Bejar, Spain, he was known for his talent on the dulzaina, a double-reed wind instrument that he taught himself and played at weddings and village celebrations. At 17, he moved with his older brother Pedro and a group of friends to Cuba, where they worked in the cane fields.

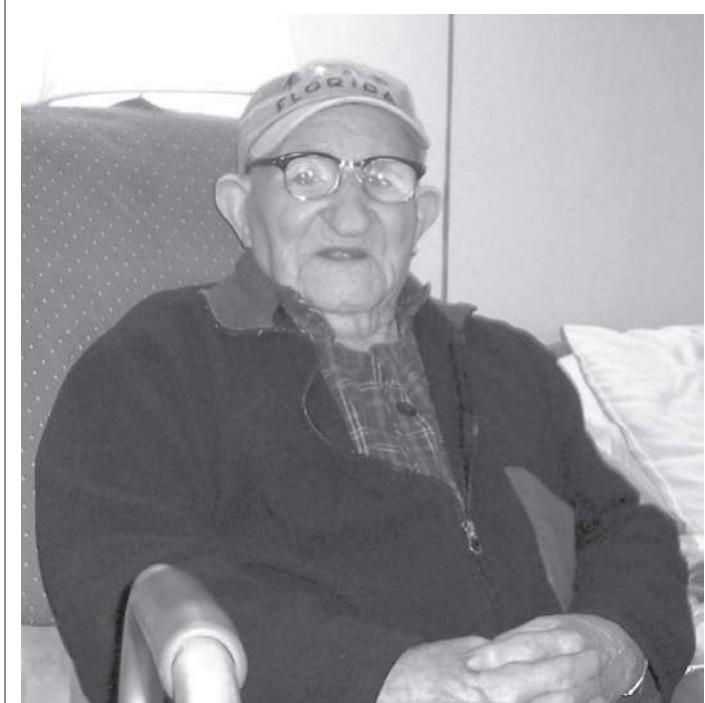
In 1920, he came to the United States through Ellis Island

and worked in the coal mines of Lynch, Ky. Ultimately, he moved to the Niagara Falls area of New York, where he worked in construction and in the industrial furnaces. He married his wife, Pearl, in 1934.

A spokeswoman for Sanchez-Blazquez's family did not immediately return a phone message Saturday.

In a statement provided by Guinness World Records earlier this summer, Sanchez-Blazquez—whose nickname was "Shorty"—said he was humbled by the attention, saying he didn't feel he accomplished anything special just because he has lived longer than most.

"He says, 'I'm an old man and let's leave it at that,'" his daughter, 69-year-old Irene Johnson, said at the time. Sanchez-Blazquez lived with Johnson in Grand Island after his wife died in 1988; he moved to a nursing home in 2007.



This photo provided by Guinness World Records shows 112 year-old Salustiano Sanchez-Blazquez.

Obama says deal on chemical weapons a plus for all

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama says an agreement between the U.S. and Russia offers a chance to destroy Syria's huge stockpile of chemical weapons and promises to end the threat the weapons pose to the region and the world as well as the Syrian people.

Obama says the international community expects Syria to live up to its public commitments to hand over its chemical weapons stockpile. Warning that the U.S. remains prepared to act if Syria falls short, he also cautions that more work remains even after

the progress the deal represents.

"The use of chemical weapons anywhere in the world is an affront to human dignity and a threat to the security of people everywhere," Obama said in a statement Saturday. "We have a duty to preserve a world free from the fear of chemical weapons for our children. Today marks an important step towards achieving this goal."

In setting out one of the most ambitious arms-control efforts in history, U.S. and Russian officials reached an agreement calling for an inventory of Syr-

ia's chemical weapons program and seizing all its components. The agreement includes imposing penalties if Syrian President Bashar Assad's government fails to comply.

Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and their teams had been meeting day and night in Geneva to develop a framework for ridding the world of Syria's chemicals weapons. A gas attack in the Damascus suburbs on Aug. 21 prompted a series of events leading to the meetings.

of their neighbors declined to evacuate, she said.

"They said they wouldn't force you, but it was strongly encouraged," she said.

Shultz teared up behind his

The U.S. and others blame Assad's government for the attack, though Assad denies the charge. More than 1,400 people died, according to U.S. estimates, the latest victims of Syria's 2 1/2-year-old civil war. Yet polls showed relatively little support among Americans for a military strike against Syria, even after the Obama administration's efforts to argue that punishing the Assad government for violating international norms of warfare was in the security interests of the U.S.

WORLD BRIEFS

Bus overturns in southwest Ohio; 35 injured

CINCINNATI (AP)—A Greyhound bus drove off an interstate highway in southwest Ohio early Saturday, struck a tree and a fence and flipped on its side before sliding to a stop in a cornfield, injuring at least 35 people. None of the injuries was considered life-threatening, though several people were trapped and had to be extricated by firefighters and paramedics, the State Highway Patrol said in a state-

ment. Patrol Sgt. Pete Combs said an investigation was underway and he could not comment on a possible cause for the crash, which happened around 4 a.m. on Interstate 75 in Liberty Township, about 25 miles north of Cincinnati. But passenger Christopher Link, of Michigan, told WCPO-TV in Cincinnati that he saw the driver slumped over. Link said he heard a woman scream at the driver "Wake up! Wake up!" but that he thinks the man might have had a medical problem. Link told the station the bus rolled over at least

twice after hitting the tree.

2 bystanders wounded in Midtown Manhattan shooting

NEW YORK (AP)—NYPD officers fired three shots on a crowded Manhattan street near Times Square on Saturday night, missing the man they believed had a weapon but striking two bystanders, police said. The incident happened just before 10 p.m. at 42nd Street and Eighth Avenue near the Port Authority Bus Terminal. Police said officers saw a

man on foot weaving erratically through traffic and sometimes blocking vehicles. After approaching him, police said, the man reached into his pocket as if grabbing a weapon, and two officers fired a total of three shots. They missed him but struck a 54-year-old woman in the right knee and a grazed a 35-year-old woman in the buttocks, police said. The women were taken to hospitals, where they both were listed in stable condition, according to police. Neither had injuries considered life threatening, police said.

Asia

Nearly 100 Philippine rebels killed or captured

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine officials say nearly 100 Muslim guerrillas, who have held scores of people hostage for a week in the south, have been killed or captured in a push by government troops to retake rebel-held coastal communities.

Interior Secretary Mar Roxas and other officials say government forces pressed the assault Sunday but were trying to avoid harming an unspecified number of hostages still held by Moro National Liberation Front insurgents in the coastal outskirts of Zamboanga city.

Officials say at least 51 rebels have been killed and 42 others captured. Six policemen and soldiers, along with four villagers, have also been killed.

Military spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala says government forces have recaptured some rebel-held ground and are fighting their way into communities still held by more than 100 insurgents.

Troops have not resorted to heavy artillery fire, rockets or launched airstrikes to protect the hostages and civilians, officials said, adding that 47 of the 56 deaths were from the rebel ranks while four civilians were killed, along with two soldiers and three policemen.

Aside from the hostages, the rebels have reportedly detonated bombs to set dozens of houses on fire to slow the troops' advance. In rebel-held Santa Catalina village, an AP photographer witnessed how troops advanced behind armored carriers to retake a road stretch only to be stalled by rebel fire, clusters of burning houses and ap-



Villagers known as "Badjaos" seek temporary shelter on their boats at a pier to flee the fighting between government forces and Muslim rebels Saturday Sept. 14, 2013 in Zamboanga city in southern Philippines. AP

parent hostages yelling, "Don't fire, don't fire."

Several hostages have escaped but it remained unclear how many remained in rebel custody.

President Benigno Aquino III said more firefights were expected but assured more than 62,000 displaced villagers being sheltered at a sports complex in Zamboanga city that the rebels' capability to sow trouble has been degraded and the government was working to end the crisis soon.

Although the fighting has been contained in just three coastal villages by Saturday,

Roxas said the danger to the trading city of nearly a million people remained serious and its international airport would have to remain closed, along with the main seaport.

A military helicopter securing Aquino was fired upon in the city Saturday, Roxas told a news conference without giving other details.

The hostage standoff, the most serious security crisis Aquino has faced since rising to power in 2010, unraveled Monday when troops foiled an attempt by the rebels, who arrived

by boat from outlying island strongholds, to march and hoist their flag at Zamboanga's city hall. They barged into five coastal villages and took more than 100 hostages as human shields.

The Moro insurgents, led by rebel leader Nur Misuari, signed a peace deal in 1996, but the guerrillas did not lay down their arms and later accused the government of renegeing on a promise to develop long-neglected Muslim regions in the south of the predominantly Roman Catholic nation. The government says Misuari kept on stall-

ing and making new demands.

The rebels have become increasingly restive in recent months as they were overshadowed by a rival rebel group, which have engaged Aquino's government in peace talks brokered by Malaysia. The talks have steadily progressed toward a new and potentially larger autonomy deal for minority Muslims in the south.

Misuari has not been seen in public since the standoff began.

Vice President Jejomar Binay said Misuari agreed to a truce late Friday by telephone, and



About the rebels

- Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) was founded in 1971 to fight for an independent Islamic nation
- Predominately Muslim autonomous region set up in 1989
- Peace agreement with the government signed in 1996, but since then MNLF seems to have been weakened and many rebellious splinter groups have formed

Source: BBC © 2013 MCT

he relayed the news to Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin, who has been helping deal with the crisis in Zamboanga city. Binay flew to Zamboanga Saturday to help deal with the crisis.

But Gazmin said the rebels have continued to fire in violation of the agreement.

"Everybody wants peace, to stop this without more bloodshed," Gazmin told DZBB radio network. "But as we speak, there's firing so there's no cease-fire. We agreed that government forces will not fire only if the MNLF will not open fire."

Meeting Monday in Paris with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and British Foreign Secretary William Hague.

He said a report by U.N. inspectors on last month's chemical weapons attack on the outskirts of Damascus would be published Monday.

China welcomes US-Russia deal on Syria

BEIJING (AP)—China on Sunday welcomed a Russia-U.S. agreement on securing and destroying Syria's chemical weapons, saying it was a peaceful solution to the stockpile issue and could ease the tense situation in the war-torn country.

In a diplomatic breakthrough that averts the threat of U.S. military action against Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime for now, American and Russian diplomats in Geneva agreed Saturday on a deal to secure and destroy its chemical weapons.

"We believe the framework agreement will ease the current tense situation that may be triggered at any moment in Syria and creates new prospects for resolving the chemical weapon issue in Syria through peaceful means," said Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

He spoke at the beginning of a meeting with his French counterpart, Laurent Fabius, who was visiting Beijing in a continuing diplomatic drive to



In this Sept. 5, 2013, President Barack Obama reaches to shake hands with Russia's President Vladimir Putin during arrivals for the G-20 summit in St. Petersburg, Russia. AP

end the two-and-a-half-year civil war.

France firmly backs the Syrian rebels and has strategic and

historic interests in the region. It urged military action after a chemical attack on Aug. 21 that it and the U.S. blame on

Assad's government.

In contrast, China and Russia have consistently blocked resolutions at the U.N. Security Council aimed at sanctioning Assad's regime.

24 Afghans die as tunnel collapses in coal mine

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Officials say a tunnel collapse in a coal mine in Afghanistan's north has killed at least 24 workers and left three missing.

Provincial government spokesman Sediqullah Azizi said Sunday that 20 more were injured.

The accident occurred Satur-

day in Ruyi Du Ab district of Samangan province, one of the safer parts of the country from the standpoint of insurgency-related violence.

Aminullah, a police official who like many Afghans goes by one name, says more than 1,000 area residents rushed to help, using shovels to try to rescue

Pakistani Taliban make demands before peace talks

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—The Pakistani Taliban have demanded that the government release militant prisoners and begin withdrawing troops from the group's tribal sanctuary before it will participate in peace talks.

Taliban spokesman Shahidullah Shahid said Sunday the group's leadership decided on

the confidence building measures while meeting to discuss the government's offer to negotiate.

The demands raise serious doubts about whether the peace process will get off the ground.

Pakistan's major political parties endorsed peace talks with the Taliban last week as the best way to end a decade-long insur-

gency that has killed thousands of people.

But it's unclear what steps the government would take to convince the militants to sit down at the negotiating table.

Many observers are skeptical about peace talks since prior agreements with the militants have fallen apart.

World

Egypt's Mubarak waves, grins as his trial resumes

CAIRO (AP)—An Egyptian judge on Saturday named top security officials to testify in the retrial of former President Hosni Mubarak on charges related to the killings of around 900 protesters during the 2011 uprising that led to his ouster.

The 85-year-old longtime autocrat's previous conviction for failing to stop the killings was overturned on appeals earlier this year, leaving still open questions about who ordered the use of deadly force against protesters and who carried out those orders.

The naming of former prison and top intelligence officials in the case appeared to intertwine Mubarak's trial with accusations facing his successor, Mohammed Morsi, who was ousted in a popularly-backed coup July 3 just one year after his election.

Morsi has been held since at an undisclosed military facility and is being investigated on allegations that he and other Muslim Brotherhood leaders

conspired with the Palestinian Hamas group in the neighboring Gaza Strip to escape from prison during the anti-Mubarak uprising.

That allegation was raised again in court Saturday by defense lawyers who suggested that Hamas militants were behind the attacks on prisons and police stations in the northern Sinai Peninsula, which borders Gaza.

As the trial resumed, the army continued its largest offensive in years against militants in northern Sinai. Security officials said Saturday they uncovered explosives aimed at an Egyptian border post near a tunnel from Gaza, with a detonating wire leading back through a tunnel to Gaza.

Military intelligence officials said the discovery was another sign that Gaza-based militants are involved in attacks on Egyptian security forces. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized

to speak to the media.

Over the past weeks, the military has bulldozed homes along the Gaza border and caved in tunnels beneath them in preparations for creating a buffer zone to reduce weapon smuggling and militant crossings.

Brotherhood and Hamas officials have long denied any connection to the prison breaks or attacks on security forces in Sinai. The Brotherhood says the allegations are part of a propaganda blitz that has portrayed the group as a terrorist organization that must be banned.

"The authority of power and of the coup turned the victims into the perpetrators and the perpetrators into the victims... completely and clearly surpassing the simplest rules of justice, which are essential to the viability and stability of nations," the Brotherhood said in a statement Saturday.

Mubarak, who ruled over the Arab world's most populous country for nearly 30 years, grinned and waved at support-



AP

Former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, seated, and his two sons, Gamal Mubarak, left, and Alaa Mubarak, right, attend a hearing in a courtroom at the Police Academy, Cairo, Egypt, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013.

ers as he was pushed in his wheelchair into the defendants' courtroom cage Saturday. Unlike previous court sessions, in which the former president was lying on a gurney, Mubarak appeared healthier and more confident as he sat upright in what was his second court appearance since his release from a prison hospital last month. He remains in detention at a military hospital pending corruption charges.

Judge Mahmoud el-Rachidi ordered a media blackout of the next three court sessions

scheduled to run from Oct. 19 until Oct. 21, citing national security reasons. The sessions will include testimonies from ex-police chief Ahmed Gamal Eddin and ex-intelligence czar Murad Muwafi, who was also a governor in Sinai during the 18-day uprising in 2011.

In the first few days of the anti-Mubarak protests, official state media tried to paint the uprising as a foreign conspiracy against Egypt and alleged that Hamas was behind the prison breaks and the killings of protesters to turn people against the

regime. There has never been a definitive accounting of who was behind the prison attacks, which saw more than 20,000 inmates escape as police tried to crush the massive protests that swept Mubarak from power.

In addition to Mubarak, six top police officials and the former interior minister, who oversaw Egypt's feared police for more than a decade, are on trial in the case. Mubarak's two sons and a business associate—who is being tried in absentia—are facing corruption charges in the same case.

Syrian rebel infighting kills 5 near Iraqi border

BEIRUT (AP)—Al-Qaida-affiliated rebels battled more moderate Syrian opposition fighters in a town along the Iraqi border on Saturday, killing at least five people in the latest outbreak of infighting among the forces opposed to President Bashar Assad's regime.

Clashes between rebel groups, particularly pitting al-Qaida-linked extremist factions against more moderate units, have grown increasingly common in recent months, undermining the opposition's primary goal of overthrowing Assad.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Saturday's fighting took place in the town of al-Boukamal between the al-Qaida-linked Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant against more mainstream rebel groups.

Observatory director Rami Abdul-Rahman said the more moderate rebels used mosque loudspeakers Friday to demand the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant leave Boukamal. When it was clear Saturday the ISIL had no plans to decamp, the mainstream groups attacked,

Abdul-Rahman said. Three mainstream rebels and two ISIL fighters were killed in the clashes, he said.

It was not immediately clear what spurred the rebel demands for ISIL to leave Boukamal.

After months of growing tensions, infighting among Syria's mosaic of rebel factions broke into the open in July. For a time, the clashes contributed to a sense that the rebellion was faltering, and threatened to fracture an opposition movement that has been plagued by divisions from the start.

The moderates once valued the expertise and resources that the Islamic extremist brigades brought to the battlefield, and rebel factions of all stripes enter into occasional alliances for specific operations. But many of the moderates now question whether such military assets are worth the trouble—not to mention the added difficulty in persuading the West to arm them.

To the south, the Observatory said government forces shelled the village of Ghadir al-Bustan, killing at least five people, including a child and a woman.

The town is on the edge of the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The area has witnessed clashes over the past days and shells have fallen in the past on the Israeli-occupied side.

In the central province of Hama, Syrian army warplanes bombed a rebel post in the village of Aqeirbat, killing six opposition gunmen and wounding others, according to the Observatory. It said the village has been witnessing heavy fighting between troops and rebels.

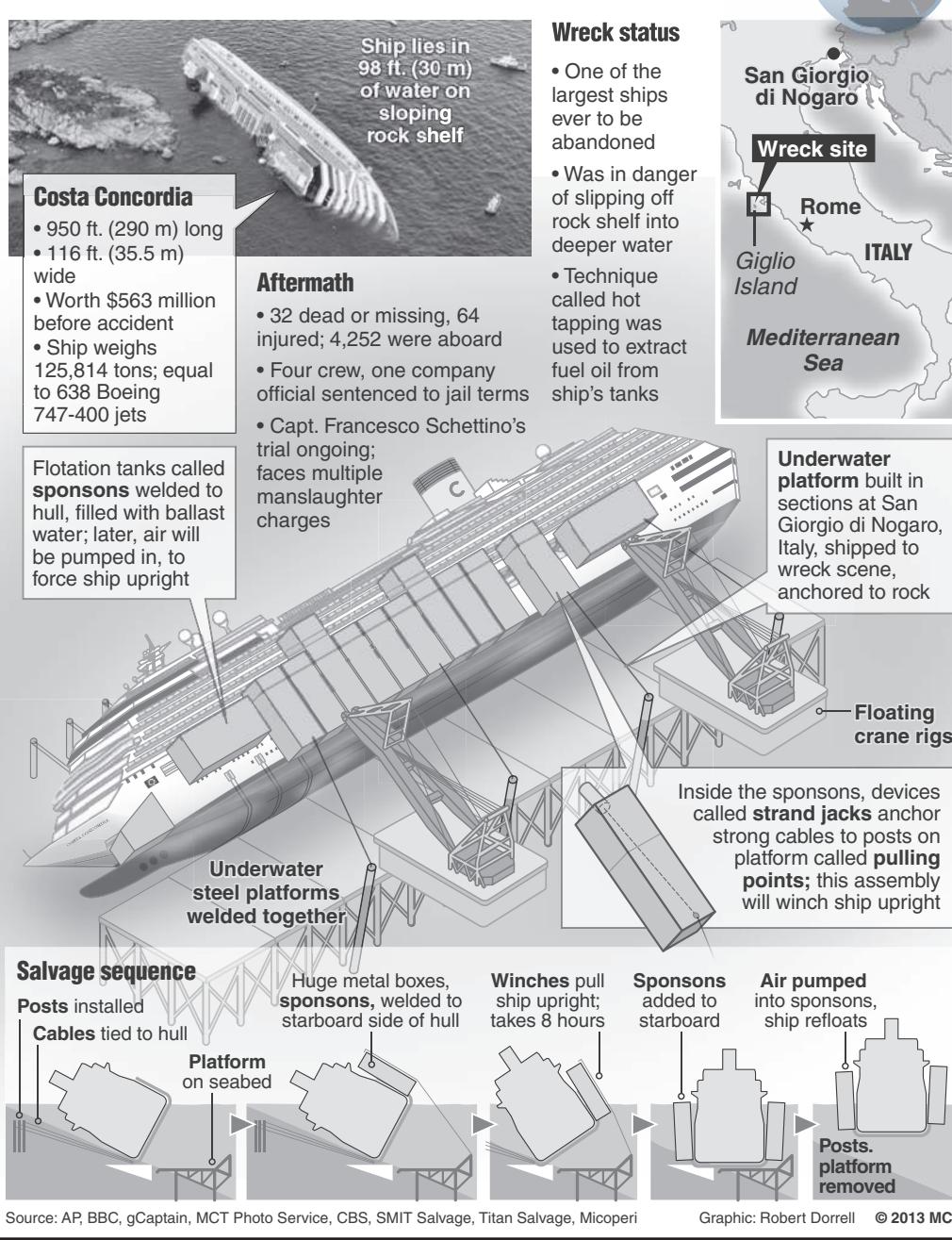
The rebels in the area include members of the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front that attacked villages inhabited by members of Assad's minority Alawite sect, an off-shoot of Shiite Islam. Most of the rebels belong to Syria's majority Sunni sect.

In Lebanon, three rockets fired from Syria fell near the eastern town of Labweh, wounding two people and causing fire in the fields, the state-run National News Agency said.

Other rockets have hit areas where the militant Hezbollah group enjoys support since the group openly joined the battle in Syria along with Assad's forces.

Complex plan to raise the Costa Concordia

A team of 400 workers is preparing to pull upright the Costa Concordia cruise ship, which in January 2012 ran aground and keeled over after striking an ecologically sensitive reef off the western Italian coast. The plan is to pull the ship upright the ship using cables and flotation aides, then refloat it later. Should this fail, plan B is to cut the huge ship into sections and haul them out.



Source: AP, BBC, gCaptain, MCT Photo Service, CBS, SMIT Salvage, Titan Salvage, Micoperi

Graphic: Robert Dorrell © 2013 MCT

Health & Fitness

Low estrogen may play a role in 'male menopause'

TV ads tout testosterone treatments for "low T," but surprising new research shows a different hormone may play a role in less sex drive and more fat as men age. Estrogen—the female hormone—is needed by men, too, and the study gives the first clear evidence that too little of it can cause certain "male menopause" symptoms.

"A lot of things we think are due to testosterone deficiency are actually related to the estrogen deficiency that accompanies it," said Dr. Joel Finkelstein of Massachusetts General Hospital. He led the U.S.-government funded study, which appears in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Testosterone is the main male sex hormone. Men's bodies convert some of it into estrogen, and levels of both decline with age. Until now, there was no way to tell which hormone was responsible for complaints of diminished libido, strength and energy.

Millions of men have been prescribed testosterone gel, patches or shots for these problems, but it's not known how much they need or whether this hormone replacement therapy is good, bad or neutral, Finkelstein said. Doctors don't usually prescribe estrogen to men; the way to remedy low estrogen is to give them testosterone and let the body convert it.

The study didn't test hormones as therapy, but explored which ones had which effects. It involved 400 healthy male volunteers, ages 20 to 50, who were given monthly shots of a drug to temporarily reduce their testosterone production to pre-puberty levels. They were



This undated photo provided by Eli Lilly & Co. shows the drug Axiron, an underarm gel used for boosting levels of testosterone. Men's bodies convert some of the male sex hormone into estrogen, and levels of both decline with age.

The new study was too short to see long-term benefits or risks, such as the effect of testosterone supplements on the heart, mental sharpness, prostate enlargement or cancer. Also, abruptly and artificially depriving men of testosterone the way the study did may not be the same as when it falls off naturally and gradually over time.

Some people call this midlife decline "male menopause" although men don't menstruate and testosterone doesn't fall off as sharply with age as estrogen does in women after menopause.

then given various doses of testosterone gel or a dummy gel to use. Half also were given another drug to prevent testosterone's conversion into estrogen.

Designing the study this way allowed researchers to compare the effects of different levels of each hormone on things like strength and body composition.

After 16 weeks, researchers saw that muscle size and strength depended on testosterone, body-fat mass depended on estrogen, and both hormones were needed to maintain normal sex drive and performance.

The results mirror animal research—mice altered so they don't make estrogen grow fat and have no sex drive. And in male-to-female transsexuals, "there's actually evidence that when those men are given estrogen, it helps their libido," Finkelstein said.

UN: 6.6 million children under 5 died last year

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Childhood death rates around the world have halved since 1990 but an estimated 6.6 million children under the age of 5 still died last year, the U.N. children's agency said Friday.

Nearly half of all children who die are in five countries: Nigeria, Congo, India, Pakistan and China, it said in a report.

"Progress can and must be made," said Anthony Lake, UNICEF's executive director. "When concerted action, sound strategies, adequate resources and strong political will are harnessed in support of child and maternal survival, dramatic reductions in child mortality aren't just feasible, they are morally imperative."

The top killers are malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea, the report said, taking the lives of about 6,000 children under age 5 daily. A lack of nutrition contributes to almost half of these deaths, the U.N. said.

Eastern and Southern Africa have reduced their death rates for children under 5 by more than 50 percent since 1990. West and Central Africa are the only regions not to have at least halved the number of children under 5 dying over the past 22 years, the U.N. said.

Nigeria bears more than 30 percent of early childhood deaths for malaria and 20 percent of the deaths associated with HIV. Globally, the country accounts for one in every eight child deaths, the U.N. said.

While these numbers are grim, the rate of improvement globally seems to have plateaued at about 4 percent improvement per year since 2005, the report said. The estimated numbers are based on solid data from about half the world's countries. And for regions with the biggest problems, they had to rely on modeling techniques.

Countries like Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Brazil showed tremendous progress, due in part to increased community health care. Affordable and increased interventions—like treated mosquito nets, medicines, rehydration treatments and improved access to safe water—helped improve the early childhood death rate in other countries as well.

First Year Death Anniversary

†Franklin Dominic Dela Cruz Iglesias
Lovingly known as "Ankie Boy"

We, the family of the late †Franklin Dominic Dela Cruz Iglesias respectfully invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the First Year Death Anniversary of our beloved son, brother unto eternal life.

Mass of intentions is being offered at 6:00A.M. which had started on Monday, September 9 until Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at San Jose Church in Oleai.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You Frank, Liz and Children

Personal Trainer

Learning to scuba

It's a water sport, but scuba diving is risky and more like flying an airplane than swimming – you must be formally trained to do it.

Open Water Diver Certification

Required for people 15 or older (those age 10 to 14 take different training for a junior certification)

Physical condition?
Exam by a physician is required

Swimming ability?
You need not be an expert, but good basic skills are required

Finding a course
Scuba shop or club can recommend a teacher appropriate for your goals

How long is training?
Depends on whether you are studying intensively, for example at a resort, or in your spare time

DECOMPRESSION TABLE

Source: Recreational Scuba Training Council
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul Trap

What equipment do I need for class?
Check with teacher; these are the basics, and some can be rented:

Mask
Snorkel
Air regulator
Air tank
Weight belt
Knife
Boots
Fins

© 2013 MCT

5TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF NEW LIFE

† Margarita Benavente Seman

&

† Jose Igibor Seman

2008-2013

We, the family of the late †Margarita and †Jose Seman, would like to invite all our relatives, friends, and acquaintances to join us in prayer as we commemorate the Fifth Year Anniversaries of our beloved Parents, Brother and Sister into their new life.

Daily Mass will be offered at St. Jude Church in Koblerville as follows:
Saturday, September 14 – 7:00AM
Sunday, September 15 – 8:00AM
Monday to Friday (Sept. 16 – Sept. 20) – 6:00PM
Saturday, September 21 – 7:00AM



On the final day Sunday, September 22, 2013, Mass will be celebrated at 8:00AM. Rosary will be said at 5:00PM at the residence of Congressman and Mrs. Mario (Vivian) Taitano in As Lito, Saipan. Dinner will follow immediately thereafter.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase
Ginen I Familia

Life & Style

Hugh Jackman to visit renovated Iowa opera house

IOWA FALLS, Iowa (AP)—

When word got out that actor Hugh Jackman was going to visit a small northern Iowa city for the reopening of its old movie theater, John Whitesell didn't think it was unusual.

The new owner of the 114-year-old Metropolitan Theater in Iowa Falls had known Jackman for years, and recalled how the Australian actor called him a few months ago to express appreciation for his efforts to restore the famed but run-

down theater.

"He said, 'You know, as I grew up in Australia, every little town had a movie theater.' He said, 'What happens is, cities start getting the bigger theaters and little towns start losing their theaters.' He said, 'I'm so glad that you're (restoring), because every little community should have a theater.'"

Jackman told Whitesell he'd like to visit the theater, which is nestled between several businesses on one of Iowa Falls'

main roads. A few months later, Whitesell—whose adult son is Jackman's agent—got the green light that Jackman's Sept. 21 visit would be part of a promotional tour for his new film, "Prisoners." His other recent film, "The Wolverine,"

will play in the building's second, smaller theater. Jackman will give introductions before the start of each film.



Jackman

"Everyone's walking around pretty shocked," said Mark Hamilton, the theater's publicist. "This is quite big news for people here."

Iowa Falls is a city of about 5,000 people, 60 miles (100 kilometers) north of Des Moines.

The theater, built in 1899, originally housed a grand opera house that featured performers like actor Otis Skin-

ner and composer John Philip Sousa. Known first as the Metropolitan Opera House, it was converted into a movie theater around the 1950s and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

"It is the dominant thing on main street," Hamilton said. "It's a gorgeous building."

The three-story building has multiple stained-glass windows inside, as well as chandeliers and a lobby mural that once graced the ceiling of the original

opera house theater. There's a ballroom on the top floor.

After a renovation in 1993, various people managed the building. Whitesell, a retired attorney from Iowa Falls, had admired the building for decades. So he bought it out of bankruptcy in May. While it had remained open, the theater had fallen into disarray over the years.

"I kept thinking, 'I can't let the theater go down like that,'" he said.

Queen Latifah plans to make noise with new show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—

Queen Latifah knows a reliable stress reliever to cope with the pressures of launching a daytime show.

"I have a drum set in my dressing room and I go in there and play for a few minutes to relax. They can forget about it being quiet around here—I'm going to bang my drums," said the singer-songwriter and actress, who's adding the job of host to her resume.

With Monday's debut of the syndicated "The Queen Latifah Show" (check local listings for station, time), she intends to make noise in the competitive realm of daytime TV.

"I'm naturally a bit edgier than typical daytime, but I kind of want to push things a little bit further, as far as I can respectfully, within the daytime space," said Latifah. "I want more out of daytime TV. I want more choices, I want more heart, more humor."

She also wants more music, befitting someone who broke ground as a female rapper before expanding into other genres. Her wish list is varied and includes Coldplay and Kings of Leon, and she's already got Alicia Keys and Plain White

T's lead singer Tom Higgenson booked for her first week.

Other inaugural guests include John Travolta, Sharon Stone, Jamie Foxx, Jake Gyllenhaal and Lisa Kudrow. Also invited are "regular people who do amazing things" that are inspirational and who deserve to share the stage with celebrities, Latifah said.

"As much bad news as we see every day, it's good to see people out there doing positive things that give you hope. I'm an optimist," she said.

Monday's show will feature a performance by preteen actress-singer Willow Smith, with dad Will Smith dropping in Tuesday.

If the schedule seems a tad Smith family heavy, it's with good reason: Latifah and Smith go way back, and he and wife Jada Pinkett Smith are among the producers of Latifah's new venture.

"She's just fantastic," Pinkett Smith told reporters in August. "I just feel like every (day), you have the opportunity to kick it with your girlfriend, Queen Latifah."

Latifah, 43, would have liked such a team for her first try as a talk-show host. The program had an abbreviated run from 1999-

Pharrell talks about battle over 'Blurred Lines'

By EMERALD MURROW

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Singer and producer Pharrell is engaged in a battle with Marvin Gaye's estate over Robin Thicke's megahit "Blurred Lines," but he wants to make one thing clear—he has incredible respect for the late soul legend.

"I'm a huge fan of Marvin Gaye. He is a genius. He is the patriarch," Pharrell said on Thursday night.



Pharrell

Last month, Pharrell, Thicke and the song's other collaborator, T.I., filed a lawsuit asking a judge to determine that it does not copy Gaye's song and a song by George Clinton. It was

a pre-emptive strike against future claims from Gaye's heirs that the song takes from Gaye's composition without credit.

Pharrell told The Associated Press on Thursday night that the two songs are not similar at all.

"If you read music, all you have to do is read the sheet music. It's completely different," he said while on the red carpet during an event for the

Calvin Klein Collection during Fashion Week.

Gaye "is the king of all kings, so let's be clear about that. And we take our hats off to him," he said. "But anybody that plays music and reads music, just simply go to the piano and play the two. One's minor and one's major. And not even in the same key."

The Grammy winner has had a huge year; he was also a collaborator on the other big song of the summer, Daft Punk's "Get Lucky."

"I'm thankful. It's awesome," he said. "You know, the people are doing it. You know what I mean? They don't have to, but the fact that they have, it's a really awesome experience and moment, you know?"

2001 but pointed her in the right direction for her new effort from Sony Pictures Television.

excited about," said Latifah.

Oprah Winfrey's 2011 departure from daytime opened the floodgates for new shows, but Latifah said she was glad to hold off on joining the fray and isn't presenting herself as a successor. She wants to have Winfrey on as a guest to dem-

onstrate "that I am the current Latifah and she is the current Oprah," she said, wryly.

She's hopeful fans of her music and her films, including "Chicago" and "The Secret Life of Bees," will be part of her audience. But they have many choices, whether celebrity-driv-

en talk shows or alternatives including "Dr. Phil" and "Dr. Oz."

"She's coming on at a time when it's very competitive, but she brings the name recognition and the support of a major studio to launch her show," said Bill Carroll, a daytime TV expert for Katz Media.

Actress Pia Zadora ordered to do anger counseling

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A judge on Thursday ordered singer-actress Pia Zadora to complete alcohol and impulse control counseling.

The entertainer, whose career peaked in the 1980s, was arrested in May after police say she sprayed her teenage son with a hose in an attempt to get him to go to bed.

A Las Vegas judge told Zadora that she'll face 30 days in jail if she fails to seek help, the Las Vegas Sun reported (<http://bit.ly/15V3Oc8>).

Zadora was charged with domestic abuse and coercion after a disturbance that began

with her attempt to hustle the 16-year-old boy to bed so she could get some rest.

Police reports say the one-time blond bombshell turned a watering hose on her son and tried to rip the phone from his hands when he called police.

Zadora told police she thought he was calling the authorities to avoid his bedtime.

On Friday, the Las Vegas restaurant Piero's Italian Cuisine announced that Zadora would begin an indefinite residency, performing at "Pia's Palace" on weekends.

A former child actress on

Broadway, Zadora has been most-often honored by the Razzies, an Academy Awards spoof that hands out prizes for Hollywood's lousiest movies on the eve of the Oscars. She won "worst new star of the decade" in 1990.

Her most memorable moment was likely her star turn in a 1982 Golden Globe pay-to-play scandal.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association named her rising star of the year after her then-husband wined and dined many voting members at his casino in Las Vegas. CBS dropped the awards show soon after.

When her film career failed to take off, Zadora became a singer of popular standards.



This undated publicity photo released by Sony Pictures Television shows Will Smith, left, with Queen Latifah, on "The Queen Latifah Show," where he also serves as executive producer. The singer-actress' new daytime talk show debuts Monday, Sept. 16, 2013. AP



Zadora

Kidman says she's OK but shaken after bike hit

NEW YORK (AP)—Nicole Kidman says she was shaken up after being knocked down by a bicyclist on a New York City sidewalk.

Kidman appeared on the red carpet Thursday night celebrating Francisco Costa's 10th anniversary as the women's creative director of the Calvin Klein Collection.

Earlier, she was outside a hotel when she was hit by a bicyclist. She was knocked to the ground, but in an interview with The Associated Press at the Calvin Klein event, she said she was OK.

Kidman added: "I'm up, I'm walking around, but I was shaken."

Police say a 19-year-old bicyclist was issued three summonses for riding a bike on the sidewalk, riding a bike with no helmet and reckless driving.

Golden Globes to honor Woody Allen's career

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The organizers of the Golden Globe Awards say they will honor Woody Allen for his contributions to filmmaking.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association said Friday that Allen will receive the 2014 Cecil B. DeMille Award.

A tribute to the 77-year-old actor, writer and director will be included in the 71st annual Golden Globe ceremony set for Jan. 12. Morgan Freeman and Martin Scorsese are among the previous recipients.

Allen's much-honored films



AP
Nicole Kidman poses for a photograph on the red carpet at the gala for the new movie "The Railway Man" during the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto on Friday, Sept. 6, 2013.



AP
In this April 13, 2012 file photo, director and actor Woody Allen poses during the photo call of the movie "To Rome with Love," in Rome.

include "Annie Hall," "Hannah and Her Sisters" and "Midnight in Paris," which

won a Golden Globe and an Academy Award for its screenplay last year.

Lohan's mom arrested on drunken driving charge

FARMINGDALE, New York (AP)—Lindsay Lohan's mother is facing a drunken driving charge in New York state following a traffic stop.



Lohan

Police had a blood alcohol concentration at more than twice the legal limit in New York.

Lohan, 30, was booked, issued tickets and then released. She's due in court Sept. 24.

Her lawyer, Mark Jay Heller, issued a statement Friday saying Lohan "appreciates the grave

seriousness" of the situation.

But he says that since she has no prior record, Lohan would likely be treated "with even-handed fairness" by the courts.

Police called an ambulance and had medics examine Lohan after she complained that she'd been hurt during the arrest. No injuries were found and Lohan subsequently recanted the claim, police said.

Elton John at iTunes fest: 'Magical to be alive'

LONDON (AP)—Sir Elton John showed the iTunes generation just how it's done.

Sporting a sequin-encrusted tailcoat, the five-time Grammy award winner gave a slick, flamboyant performance Thursday night at the iTunes Festival in London, mixing new material with longtime crowd pleasers including "Rocket Man," "I'm Still Standing" and "Tiny Dancer."

Following a recent health scare with appendicitis, the 66-year-old musician told the crowd "this is a magical time to be alive."

He says "I love music now more than I ever did."

He also gave a shout out to singer Harry Styles in the audience, saying "I love One Direction!"—before closing with "Your Song," a tribute to his partner David Furnish.

John's new album, "The Diving Board," is being released Sept. 24.

The iTunes Festival continues until Sept. 30.



AP
Elton John performs at the Roundhouse in London as part of the iTunes Festival, Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013.

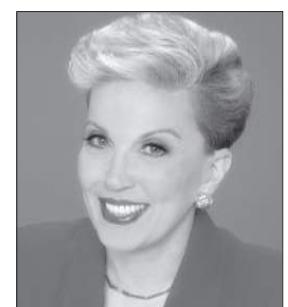
Condolences to old friend are better late than never

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of four years, "Joey," is a kind and loving person. Recently the father of one of his close childhood friends died. We live a plane ride away, and Joey could not get time off work to attend the services.

I assumed Joey called his friend and family to extend his sympathies. During our last visit home, I found out he had not reached out to them. I'm upset that he didn't, and I know the friend was deeply hurt by it.

At this point, what can Joey do to make things right? Why wouldn't he make the call in the first place?



Dear Abby

SMOOTHING IT OVER IN SAN ANTONIO

DEAR SMOOTHING IT OVER: Joey may not have reached out because he didn't know what to do, which would have been to call and extend his condolences or send a card or handwritten note. He may have procrastinated because he didn't know what to say and was afraid he'd say the wrong thing.

The way to fix this would be for Joey to pick up the phone, apologize to his friend for not calling sooner, and confess that he knows he was wrong for not doing so. All he needs to say after that is that he's sorry for his friend's loss, which he knows must have been painful. Then he should be quiet and listen.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter-in-law allows her 2-year-old daughter to run around naked before bath time and at other times. They have been visiting us, and there are also other people in the house and yard. The child's mom tells her to say, "Look at these buns!" and laughs.

We feel this is inappropriate and dangerous. How can we get through to her that it's not right?

CONCERNED GRANDMA IN EAU CLAIRE, WIS.

DEAR GRANDMA: While I don't think that allowing a child to run around nude at home is dangerous, I do agree that encouraging a child to run naked and say, "Look at these buns!" is unwise. The response it brings ("Ha, ha, ha—isn't she cute!") teaches the little girl that this is a way to get attention. While this may be amusing at 2, it is setting a pattern that will attract the wrong kind of attention when she is 4, 5 or 6. Envision her mooning the first-grade class! Perhaps you can make your daughter-in-law understand by showing her this column. I certainly hope so.

DEAR ABBY: I am an asexual college student with a question about dating. When should I tell someone that I'm asexual? I'm not really "out"—mostly because I don't feel the need to talk about it—but I'm not ashamed of it, either. What do you think?

NEW ENGLAND "ACE"

DEAR ACE: I see no reason to announce it at a first meeting because it's nobody's business. The time to tell someone you are asexual is after you have gotten to know the person well enough to be comfortable sharing information.

In case you don't realize it, you are not the only asexual person out there. Because there's so much emphasis on sex and sexual orientation in our society, it might help you to know that an organization exists which enables asexuals to connect with each other. It's the Asexual Visibility and Education Network (AVEN), and you can find it on the Internet at asexuality.org.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: *Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447.* (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



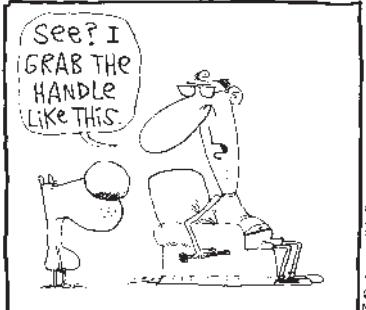
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS		DOWN	
1	Bread quantity	41	James of jazz
5	Book-keeper (Abbr.)	42	Fails to
8	Abbr. on a phone	45	Donny or Marie
12	Taj Mahal city	49	Really excited (about)
13	That woman	51	Soft cheese
14	Soccer legend	52	To be, in Toulon
15	"Dead Poets Society" director Peter	53	Past
16	Gave a name to	54	Capri, for one
18	At hand	55	Santa's sackful
20	Furry wraps	56	Deteriorate
21	Raw minerals	57	Not single-sex
23	Total	DOWN	Robert —
24	Tangled up	1	Croquet venue
28	Camper's shelter	11	Cincinnati team
31	Court		
32	French — soup		
34	Meadow		
35	Satanic		
37	Involved		
39	Trail behind		

Solution time: 27 mins.



Friday's answer 9-16

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nick Jonas, 21; Alexis Bledel, 32; Amy Poehler, 42; Mickey Rourke, 61.

Happy Birthday: Take action to ensure you are in the loop where you can influence the outcome. Don't look back or give in when you have a goal to reach and a timeline set. Attitude will lead to success, so don't dawdle when you should be sprinting. Unleash intensity and passion, and your confidence will lead you to your destination. Your numbers are 5, 8, 13, 23, 25, 31, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A personal overhaul will boost your confidence. Take the initiative to be current and aware of new technology or skills that can help improve your status or position. Efficiency, moderation and consistency will help you win support and favors and avoid complaints. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Weigh the pros and cons. Don't believe everything you hear. An overrated point of view will take you off course. Get the facts and make an accurate assessment. Rely on your ability and talent, not someone else's. **★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Time spent doing a good job will convince others to give you more responsibility. Sharing ideas will motivate you to move faster so you can begin projects that excite you. Re-evaluate your situation, and you'll find a way to fulfill your dreams. **★★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Uncertainty is prevalent. Try not to get into a discussion with someone looking for a commitment. You are best to keep looking at your prospects and

researching the pros and cons of what's being offered and what's expected of you. **★★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let a disagreement explode into a serious emotional encounter. Use your ability to negotiate and find a solution. Changes due to added responsibilities will help you repair damage done to your reputation if you step up and do what's required. **★★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Enjoy life, friends and whatever is happening in your community. Taking a diverse approach to whatever you do will lead to good fortune and help you get past any obstacles you meet along the way. Work at improving important relationships. **★★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep life simple and avoid situations that have the potential to backfire. Stick to the truth and show emotional and physical support to those you care about. How you are treated now will depend on what you have done in the past. **★★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Distractions must be avoided. Protect your interests and your lifestyle. An innovative approach to improving your personal life emotionally, physically and financially will bring excellent results. Don't allow anger or resentment to stand between you and your goals. **★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Do what you can for others without expecting anything in return. Paying it forward will result in life-altering changes that will help you improve your attitude and bring about positive options that can improve your financial and domestic situation. **★★★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Secrecy or meddling will stand between you and your goals. There are profits to be made and friendships that will develop if you are open, honest and willing to make the first move. A promise could lead to love. **★★★★**

Birthday Baby: You are dependable and take control. You are informative and strong-willed.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put partnerships first. Be precise regarding what you want. Don't leave anyone guessing, or an unexpected occurrence will leave you in an awkward position. Focus on accomplishing the next to impossible and leave a good impression. **★★★★**

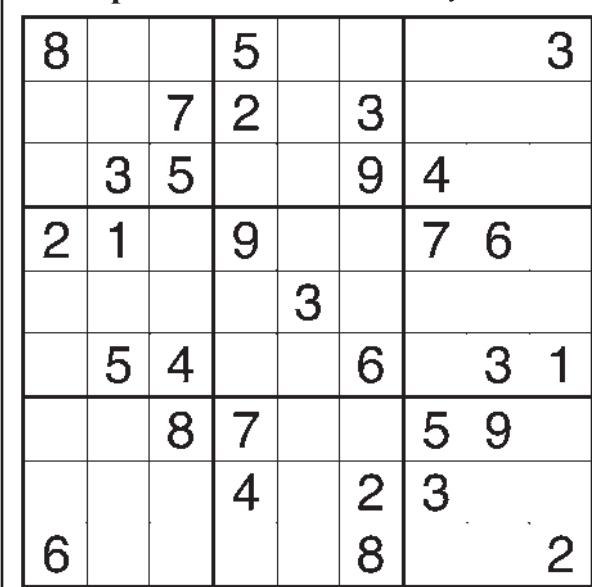
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional issues will arise if you let jealousy or possessiveness take over. Size up your situation based on what others do and say, and make an unexpected change based on past experience to rectify any negativity you encounter. **★★★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Secrecy or meddling will stand between you and your goals. There are profits to be made and friendships that will develop if you are open, honest and willing to make the first move. A promise could lead to love. **★★★★**

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

2	6	8	9	4	5	3	1	7
5	9	7	8	1	3	6	2	4
1	3	4	6	2	7	9	8	5
7	2	1	3	8	6	5	4	9
8	5	6	4	7	9	2	3	1
9	4	3	1	5	2	8	7	6
4	1	9	2	6	8	7	5	3
3	7	2	5	9	4	1	6	8
6	8	5	7	3	1	4	9	2

Difficulty Level ****

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters

GOSSIPSS

LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters

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Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CHO, SEONG JEO, CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff, NO. 13-0161C
vs. SUMMONS
PARK JAE HYUN, HAN SANG EOK, KWON
CHOON SEOB, MOON YOO SUK, AN JONG
HO, PHILIP S. BERG COMPANY, LTD. and
DAE DONG CORPORATION, Defendants.

TO: PARK JAE HYUN, HAN SANG EOK, KWON
CHOON SEOB, MOON YOO SUK, AN JONG
HO, PHILIP S. BERG COMPANY, LTD.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file with the Superior Court any Answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication, and to deliver or mail a copy of the Answer to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Second Floor, D'Torres Building, Garapan, P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your Answer.

Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By Order of the above Court:

DATED August 29, 2013.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT 3rd Publication

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Position Requirements:

- High School graduate, GED or equivalent; associate degree in accounting, auditing, business management or finance preferred.
- 2 years bookkeeping or accounting work experience in tour operation, sales or service related work.
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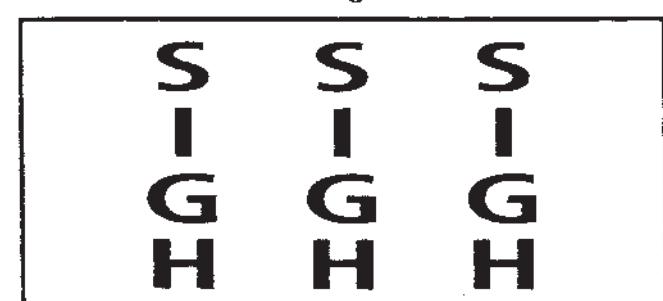
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Furyk takes 1-shot lead at BMW Championship

BMW Championship

LAKE FOREST, III. (AP)— Jim Furyk was 10 shots worse and right where he wanted to be Saturday in the BMW Championship.

One day after Furyk had a 12-under 59 to become the sixth player in PGA Tour history to shoot golf's magic number, he did enough right on the back nine at Conway Farms for a 69 and a one-shot lead over Steve Stricker.

Furyk wasn't expecting another low round—no one ever shot better than 68 on the PGA Tour following a 59. And while the three-putt bogey on his last hole was a setback, it didn't keep him from the only place he wanted to be.

"The goal was to go out and shoot a good number today, get myself in position to win this golf tournament," Furyk said. "It could have been better out there. ... Obviously, I dropped that shot at 18, which I'm disappointed. It was probably one of the easier holes of the day. But I've got myself in good position, so rather than harp on the last hole, I'd probably tend to want to think about tomorrow and what I have to do to try to win a golf tournament."

It doesn't figure to be easy.

For starters, Furyk has failed to convert at least a share of the 54-hole lead into a victory in his last four attempts, two of them at major championships. And there were plenty of stars lined up behind, including Tiger Woods.

Stricker holed out from the 15th fairway for eagle on his way to a 64, putting him in the final group as he tries to win for the first time this year. Brandt Snedeker salvaged a sloppy day with a birdie on his last hole for a 71 and was two shots behind. Zach Johnson had a 69 and was another shot back.

Woods was still fuming after being handed a two-shot penalty Friday when his ball appeared to shift as he was removing a twig near it before a shot from the woods. But he ran off six birdies in seven holes in the middle of his round to get within two shots. His momentum was slowed when he missed a 6-foot birdie putt on the par-5 14th hole, and then pulled his 3-wood into the water on the 15th and did well to make bogey. He had a 66.

"I had a nice little run to at least get myself in there where I have a chance tomorrow," Woods said.

Furyk was at 13-under 200.

He cleared one mental battle by trying to put that 59 behind him and return his focus to the tournament. Now comes another mental battle that figures to be even tougher. Furyk has gone three years since he last won a tournament, and it hasn't been from a lack of opportunity.



Jim Furyk hits his approach shot to the 18th green during the third round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill., Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013. AP

Garcia and Woods had a verbal spat at The Players Cham-

pionship, which ended badly when Garcia jokingly said he

would have Woods over for dinner during the U.S. Open

Woods doesn't think he deserved 2-shot penalty

LAKE FOREST, III. (AP)— Even after watching video evidence, Tiger Woods still doesn't think he deserved a two-shot penalty at the BMW Championship.

Woods was docked two shots at the end of his second round when his ball moved ever so slightly behind the first green. Video from a camera man hired by PGA Tour Entertainment showed the golf ball dip down as Woods was removing a twig before playing a shot from the trees.

Woods argued that it only oscillated, returning to its original position. The chief rules official at the PGA Tour determined otherwise.

"As I said, from my vantage point, I thought it just oscillated and that was it," Woods said Saturday after shooting a 5-under 66 at Conway Farms.

"They replayed it again and

again and again. And I felt the same way."

Slugger White, vice president of competition for the PGA Tour, said Woods did not take the penalty easily.

"He was a little disbelieving. How's that?" White said Friday.

Woods did not argue with that description.

"I was pretty hot because I felt like nothing happened," Woods said. "I felt like the ball oscillated and that was it. I played the rest of the round grinding my tail off to get myself back in the tournament, and then go from five to seven behind. That was tough."

"We had a very good discussion," he said. "I'll end it at that."

The only thing that moved in the third round was Woods' name up the leaderboard,

though not as much as he had hoped. He ran off six birdies in seven holes in the middle of his round and got within two shots of the lead at one point before his momentum stalled. He still moved up eight spots into fifth place, four shots behind Jim Furyk going into the final round of a tournament he has won five times.

And he did it with Sergio Garcia along for the ride.

It was the first time Woods and Garcia played together since their verbal sparring at The Players Championship, won by Woods. Their public spat ended when Garcia jokingly said at a European Tour awards dinner that he would have Woods over for dinner during the U.S. Open and serve fried chicken.

Garcia apologized, though

and serve him fried chicken.

In the suburbs north of Chicago, there was hardly any heckling beyond what is heard at a normal golf tournament in America.

Furyk didn't make his first birdie until the seventh hole, but he made two more to get back into a rhythm and build a cushion.

Why couldn't he produce another low round?

"I think there's probably a mental battle to it," he said. "But you're not going to have many days like I played yesterday."

Of the five previous 59s on the PGA Tour, only two failed to win the tournament - Chip Beck in the 1991 Las Vegas Invitational and Paul Goydos at the 2010 John Deere Classic. Beck had his 13-under 59 in the third round of a 90-hole tournament and tied for third. Goydos had his 12-under 59 in the opening round and was runner-up.

Al Geiberger shot 13-under 59 in the second round of the 1977 Memphis Classic and went on to win. David Duval (13-under 59 at the 1999 Bob Hope Classic) and Stuart Appleby (11-under 59 at the 2010 Greenbrier Classic) shot their rounds on Sunday to win.

Sources: LeBron weds girlfriend in San Diego

SAN DIEGO (AP)— LeBron James has another ring.

The Miami Heat star married Savannah Brinson at the posh Grand Del Mar Hotel in San Diego on Saturday, according to two people familiar with the details of the ceremony.

About 200 guests were present for the ceremony, said one of the people, both of whom spoke on condition of anonymity because the wedding was private and the couple had yet to release any details. The ceremony was the highlight of a three-day celebration that will conclude with a brunch on Sunday.

James and Brinson, 27, have been together since high school and have two sons. James, 28, proposed just after midnight on Jan. 1, 2012 in Miami Beach, flanked then by many of his teammates—just as he was again Saturday night for his wedding.

Intense security measures surrounded the wedding, and even some of the invited guests were unclear on some specific details in the days leading up to the long-awaited event that came less than three months after James and the Heat won their second straight NBA title.

Guests were ushered into the

wedding areas under the cover of tents, and television footage taken by news helicopters showed that even umbrellas were used to protect the identity of those arriving. Heat owner Micky Arison, coach Erik Spoelstra and many of James' teammates including Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh were on the guest list.

And while some with ties to James, such as Wade and his actress girlfriend Gabrielle Union, tweeted that they were in the San Diego area for a wedding, none released any details Saturday night—since one of the many rules of the wedding was

believed to be that no phones would be allowed.

Brinson spoke briefly with AP about the wedding last spring, saying she was both excited and nervous. James has only discussed the wedding in general terms, once describing his role as only to ensure "that Savannah gets whatever she wants on her day, the wedding day she always dreamed of."

James, a four-time NBA Most Valuable Player, and the Heat will open training camp next month. In June, they outlasted the San Antonio Spurs in seven games to capture the championship.

A's beat Rangers 1-0 to stretch lead to 5 1/2 games



ARLINGTON, Texas

(AP)—Bartolo Colon scattered seven hits over eight impressive innings for the AL West-leading Oakland Athletics, who stretched their division lead over Texas to 5 1/2 games with a 1-0 victory over the Rangers and Yu Darvish on Saturday.

The A's won for the seventh time in eight games, and clinched the key division series by beating Texas twice in less than 24 hours.

Colon (16-6) struck out seven and lowered what is already his career-best ERA to 2.73.

Darvish (12-9) struck out 10 over seven innings in his fourth 1-0 loss of the season. The right-hander from Japan has lost his last four starts, the last two by 1-0 scores, and is winless his last six.

Even though Darvish struck out the side in the first, Josh Donaldson drew a one-out walk and scored on a two-out double by Brandon Moss into the right field corner.

Rays 7, Twins 0

In Minneapolis, Matt Moore and five relievers combined on a four-hitter and the Tampa Bay Rays held their wild-card lead, defeating Minnesota on a rainy night.

Desmond Jennings hit a pair of RBI doubles as the Rays stayed 1 1/2 games ahead of Cleveland for the second AL wild-card spot.

The Rays teamed to blank the Twins for the second straight day, and threw their 15th shutout of the season. Tampa Bay beat Minnesota for the 11th time in a row.

After first pitch was delayed by 7 minutes, Tampa Bay took a 4-0 lead before the game was delayed 2 hours, 4 minutes in the middle of the fourth inning.

Moore struck out five over three innings and didn't return after the delay. He has only allowed one earned run in 14 2-3 innings since coming off the disabled list earlier this month.

Brandon Gomes (1-1) pitched the fourth inning and got the win. Andrew Albers (2-3) allowed four runs in four innings.

Royals 1, Tigers 0

In Detroit, Prince Fielder was thrown out at home plate to end the game, preserving Ervin Santana's impressive outing and leading the Royals to a victory over the Tigers.

Eric Hosmer had an RBI triple in the first for the Royals. He was thrown out at the plate trying to score on a grounder to third base.

Santana (9-9) won for the first time since Aug. 4, outpitching Doug Fister (12-9).

Greg Holland got his 43rd save as the Royals stayed 3 1/2 games Tampa Bay for the second wild-card spot.

Fielder walked to open the ninth. The Tigers' burly first



Oakland Athletics starting pitcher Bartolo Colon (40) works against the Texas Rangers in the first inning of a baseball game, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013, in Arlington, Texas. AP

baseman then tried to score from first on Omar Infante's two-out double but Gold Glove outfielder Alex Gordon made a strong throw from the left field corner to Alcides Escobar. The shortstop then made a perfect relay to catcher Salvador Perez, who tagged a sliding Fielder to end it.

Indians 8, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Ubaldo Jimenez pitched 8 1-3 strong innings and Asdrubal Cabrera and Lonnie Chisenhall homered to lead Cleveland to a victory over the White Sox on Saturday night that helped the Indians keep pace in the AL wild-card race.

The Indians trail Tampa Bay by 1 1/2 games for the last wild-card spot.

Cabrera hit a two-run homer and Chisenhall added a three-run shot in a five-run fourth inning that powered the Indians to their 11th straight win against Chicago and third in a row overall.

Jimenez (12-9) scattered eight hits and struck out eight to win his third straight start.

Andre Rienzo (2-2) lasted just four innings, allowing five runs on seven hits and four walks.

Red Sox 5, Yankees 1

In Boston, Jon Lester pitched eight dominant innings, and the AL East-leading Red Sox dealt the Yankees' wild-card hopes another blow.

Mike Napoli, Jonny Gomes and Shane Victorino each had two hits as the surging Red Sox won for the 16th time in 19 games and beat the Yankees for the fifth time in six meetings in just over a week.

New York is three games behind Tampa Bay for the second wild-card slot.

Lester (14-8) allowed one run and three hits, striking out five and walking two for his fourth win in six starts.

The Red Sox built a 5-1 lead against CC Sabathia (13-13) after five innings.

Sabathia went six innings,

allowing five runs on nine hits, walking four and striking out five.

Blue Jays 4, Orioles 3

In Toronto, Colby Rasmus hit a two-run home run, Jeremy Jeffress won for the first time in more than two years and the Jays handed the slumping Orioles their fifth loss in seven games.

The Orioles are 3 1/2 games behind Tampa Bay for the second AL wild-card slot.

Rasmus erased Baltimore's 3-2 lead with a drive off the facing of the second deck against Chris Tillman (16-6) in the seventh inning. For Rasmus, it was his 20th homer of the season and second in two days.

Jeffress (1-0) pitched one scoreless inning of relief to win for the first time since April 5, 2011, when he beat the Chicago White Sox while pitching for Kansas City.

Tillman allowed four runs and six hits in eight innings to lose for the first time since Aug. 19.

Angels 6, Astros 2

In Houston, Jered Weaver pitched six solid innings, Chris Iannetta homered and the Angels stopped Houston's four-game winning streak.

Weaver (10-8) joined Nolan Ryan as the only Angels pitchers to reach double-digits in wins for eight straight seasons.

Brett Wallace homered for Houston, which leads the majors with 97 losses. The Astros had their first four-game winning string since mid-June.

Rookie Brett Oberholtzer (4-3) allowed four runs and six hits in six innings.

Giants 19, Dodgers 3

In Los Angeles, Hunter Pence's grand slam and career-high seven RBIs helped San Francisco romp past the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The 19 runs were the most Los Angeles has ever given up at Dodger Stadium.

The Dodgers' magic number for clinching the NL West re-

mained at four.

The last time the Los Angeles allowed 19 runs at home was on Sept. 12, 1961, when Philadelphia won 19-10 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in a game started by none other than Sandy Koufax. Dodger Stadium opened the next season.

Brandon Belt also homered and set career highs with five hits and six RBIs during the Giants' 22-hit attack.

Tim Lincecum (10-13) won his fourth consecutive decision. He also singled twice and scored two runs.

Ricky Nolasco (13-10) was charged with seven runs on seven hits and three walks in 1 1-3 innings.

Diamondbacks 9, Rockies 2

In Phoenix, the Colorado Rockies announced after their loss to Arizona that longtime star Todd Helton plans to retire at the end of the season.

The 40-year-old Helton is a five-time All-Star. He doubled, scored a run and drove in one during the loss.

Wade Miley took a shutout into the seventh inning, and Gerardo Parra doubled twice and drove in three runs.

Aaron Hill had three hits and three RBIs and Miguel Montero had three hits and scored twice on his bobblehead night, helping Miley (10-10) get his first win since Aug. 6.

Roy Oswalt (0-6) gave up two runs and seven hits in 4 2-3 innings.

Reds 7, Brewers 3

In Milwaukee, Joey Votto and Shin-Soo Choo each hit two-run homers, and the Cincinnati Reds kept pace in the NL Central race with a win over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Homer Bailey (11-10) allowed three runs over seven innings in winning his career-best sixth straight decision. Votto had three RBIs, including the towering drive off the right field

over San Diego.

The NL East-leading Braves led 2-0 before Chase Headley hit a ninth-inning homer off closer Craig Kimbrel, who then pitched around a two-out walk to Ronny Cedeno for his career-best 47th save.

Freddie Freeman had three hits, including a sixth-inning homer off Robbie Erlin (2-3), to help the Braves earn their first win of the season over the Padres. San Diego won the first four games of the season series.

Phillies 5, Nationals 4

In Washington, Carlos Ruiz had two doubles and three RBIs, John Mayberry homered and the Philadelphia Phillies ended Washington's seven-game winning streak.

The Nationals fell 5 1/2 games behind Cincinnati for the second NL wild card.

Cole Hamels (8-13) won his fourth straight decision. Jonathan Papelbon worked around a leadoff double in the ninth for his 27th save.

Denard Span extended his hitting streak to 25 games. He got three hits and stole three bases for Washington.

Gio Gonzalez (10-7), coming off a one-hitter against the Mets, allowed four runs on nine hits in six innings.

Pirates 2, Cubs 1

In Pittsburgh, Gerrit Cole pitched seven strong innings and got home run help from Marlon Byrd and Jose Tabata, leading the Pittsburgh Pirates past the Chicago Cubs.

The Pirates have won five of six and tied St. Louis for the NL Central lead.

Cole (8-7) gave up one run and five hits. The rookie struck out seven and walked three.

Tony Watson pitched the eighth and Mark Melancon worked the ninth to finish off the five-hitter for his 15th save.

Byrd hit a solo home run off James Russell (1-6) in the seventh to put Pittsburgh ahead 2-1.

LaTroy Hawkins got three outs for his 10th save.

Murphy and Duda homered to start the third against Jacob Turner (3-7), who fell to 0-6 in his last 11 starts.

In the opener, Donovan Solano got some payback after he was hit by two pitches, launching a home run and making two terrific defensive plays that sent Henderson Alvarez and the Marlins past the Mets in the opener of a doubleheader.

Logan Morrison drove in two runs, one on a line drive off the right wrist of Frank Francisco that knocked the oft-injured reliever out of the game. Alvarez (4-4) pitched four-hit ball over seven innings for his second win against the Mets this year.

Carlos Torres (3-5) hit Solano with pitches in his first two plate appearances. Torres struck out a career-high eight in six innings and gave up only three hits.

Marlins 3, Mets 0, 1st game

Mets 3, Marlins 1, 2nd game

In New York, Daisuke Matsuzaka allowed two hits in seven innings for his first major league win in more than a year, and the New York Mets got back-to-back homers from Daniel Murphy and Lucas Duda to beat the Miami Marlins for a doubleheader split.

Matsuzaka (1-3) plunked Placido Polanco twice in the nightcap, but other than that the Japanese right-hander was in complete control. It was his first big league win since Aug. 27, 2012, with Boston against Kansas City. He entered 1-10 in his past 16 major league starts.

LaTroy Hawkins got three outs for his 10th save.

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Mayweather dominates for easy decision win

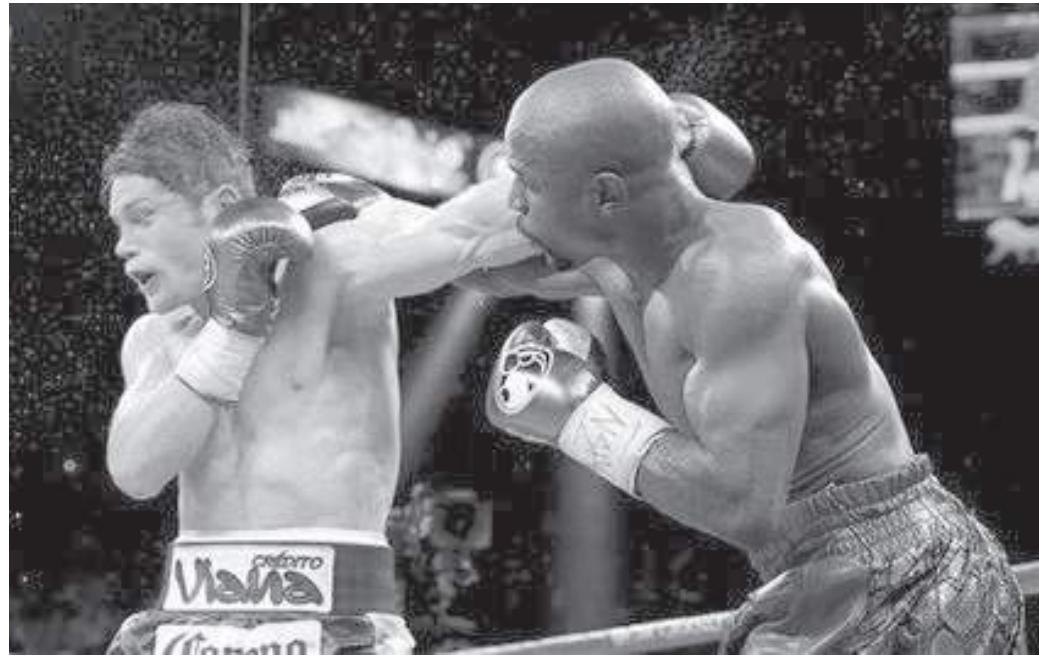
By TIM DAHLBERG
AP BOXING WRITER



LAS VEGAS
(AP)—Canelo Alvarez proved nothing more than easy money for Floyd Mayweather Jr.

Mayweather turned one of the richest fights ever into just another \$41.5 million payday Saturday night, dominating Alvarez from the opening bell and winning a majority decision in a masterful performance that left no doubt who the best fighter of his era is.

Fighting off his shortest lay-off in years, Mayweather was sharp, efficient and sometimes brutal in dismantling an unbeaten fighter who was bigger and was supposed to punch harder. He frustrated Alvarez early, pounded



him with big right hands in the middle rounds, and made him look just like he said he would—like any other opponent.

Mayweather was favored 117-111 and 116-112 on two ringside scorecards while a third inexplicably had the fight 114-114. The Associated Press scored it 119-109 for Mayweather.

"I just listened to my corner, listened to my dad," Mayweather said. "My dad had a brilliant game plan, and I went out there and got the job done."

Mayweather remained unbeaten in 45 fights and added another piece of the junior middleweight title to his collection in a fight that was fought at a 152-pound limit. Alvarez weighed in at that weight, but was an unofficial 165 pounds when he got into the ring while Mayweather, who weighed in at 150 1/2 pounds, was an even 150.

The extra weight did Alvarez no good and the punching power that brought him 30 knockouts in 43 fights wasn't a help either. The Mexican star was seldom able to land a solid punch, with most of his punches either missing or glancing off of Mayweather.

"No doubt he's a great fighter, a very intelligent fighter," Alvarez said. "There was no solution for him."

Mayweather said he actually

had to put on weight during the day to even get close to what he weighed the day before.

"When I woke up this morning, I was 146 pounds, so I had to call my chef and get something in my system," he said.

Mayweather's speed was the difference all night as he was able to land straight rights and left jabs, then get out of the way before Alvarez was able to respond. But while Mayweather used great defense, he wasn't afraid to attack often and at different angles, finding Alvarez with punches he couldn't anticipate.

"He's very talented, very elusive," Alvarez said.

When it was over, Mayweather didn't even celebrate, walking over to a corner to look at the crowd. Just another payday, just another win for Money May. The only surprise came when it was announced the decision wasn't unanimous, with judge C.J. Ross scoring it even.

"I can't control what the judges do," Mayweather said.

Alvarez was supposed to be Mayweather's greatest challenge and he did his best to force the action. Like others, though, he couldn't solve the puzzle that is Mayweather and spent much of his night punching at an opponent who had already moved away from him.

DYS

From Page 28

to play "nice" to the short-handed and developing team. By the end of the first period, DYS led by only 4, 12-8, and DA Projects even tied the match early in the second, 16-all, as the former allowed the latter to score on open layups.

However, DYS was back to business midway in the second period and ended the first half with a 28-18 advantage. The lead never went down to single digits in the second half as DA Projects' raw talent was clearly

no match to DYS.

Dalton Dancoe and Mark Venus top-scored for DYS with 14 points apiece, while Karlo De Leon and D.J. Ong added 11 and 9, respectively.

In the second playoff game, the Rebelholics held the Rollers to single digit in scoring in each of the four quarters to notch the 13-point win.

The Rebelholics gave up only one field goal to the Rollers in the opening canto for a slim 6-4 lead, which went up to double figures after 16 minutes of play, as the latter had its worst offensive performance in the second canto, making only 2 points.

Meanwhile, victors of the two semis games today will meet in the winner-take-all finals this Friday at 5:30pm.

Now ahead by 12, 18-6, the Rollers continued to pull away in the third period with Isaiah Retan picking up where he left off in the second canto. Retan scored the Rebelholics' last two field goals in the second frame and added 6 more points in the third quarter to lift his team to a 30-13 advantage. The 17-point lead was enough to offset the Rebelholics' 5-point output in the final canto and secure the team's slot to the next round.

Meanwhile, victors of the two semis games today will meet in the winner-take-all finals this Friday at 5:30pm.

ment in Fiji and advanced to the finals the boys U12 singles and doubles. In the singles, Ren was unbeaten in five games in Pool A, earning all victories via two sets. He marched into the finals after edging fellow CNMI player Robbie Schorr, 6-3, 6-2, but lost to Tahiti's Gillian Osmont in the title game, 6-2, 6-2. In the doubles, Ren partnered with Schorr, but fell short in a tough three-set finale against Vanuatu's Clement Mainguy and Ben Pechan, 6-4, 4-6, 10-7.

Meanwhile, Kim earned the

August citation for returning to Saipan and competing in the 2013 Tournament of Championships. She won the Ladies Flight of the annual tournament to post her fourth straight win in the event and six overall.

A few weeks after extending her reign at TOC, Kim returned to Colorado and was named RMAC (Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference) Preseason Golfer of the Year. She went on to compete in the RMAC Tournament 1 early this month, setting a school record of 3-under par 69, topping

First Game

DYS 62 – Dancoe 14, Venus 14, De Leon 11, Ong 9, Flores 4, Cenir 4, Mendoza 2.

DA Projects 38 – Itaas 14, Du. Laxa 14, Da. Laxa 4, Rasa 4.

Scoring by quarters: 12-8, 28-18, 39-25, 62-38.

Second Game

Rebelholics 35 – Retan 10, Cudia 6, Deocares 5, Caglin 4, Rios 4, Toves 3.

Rollers 22 – Ogunmoro 9, Factor 4, Cobacho 4, Caracut 3, Tengco 2.

Scoring by quarters: 6-4, 18-6, 30-13, 35-22.

the around 70-player field, and leading Colorado State University-Pueblo's win against 14 other schools.

Sharing the August plum with Kim is Miller, a member of the CNMI Men's National Team. Miller, the top scorer of the Blue Ayuyus, left Saipan last month to try out for a professional football team in Hong Kong. He made a good impression in the tryout for a pro club and is likely to get another invitation when the group starts its regular season campaign later this year.

on Wednesday at 6:30pm. The one-game division finals will be played this Friday at 6:30pm.

First Game

S.J. Ol'Aces 71 – San Nicolas 24, Mendoza 12, Mizer 12, De Leon 10, Camacho 8, Olopai 4, Pettis 2.

Rebelholics 40 – Cenir 12, Francisco 10, Rios 6, Vivero 4, Ellama 4, Iba 4, Sagun 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-6, 40-12, 47-28, 71-40.

Second Game

Ol'Aces 72 – Cruz 12, Kaitpat 11, Darag 9, Floresca 8, De Luna 6, Olopai 6, Faisao 4, Mafogna 2, Moses 2.

COPSSA Warriors 39 – Yap 13, Omori 11, Cepeda 10, Feria 3, Po 1.

Scoring by quarters: 15-12, 27-20, 45-30, 72-39.

period for a 45-30 lead. The Ol'Aces then saved the best for last, outscoring the Warriors in the fourth, 27-10, for the 33-point winning margin.

The Ol'Aces is ranked sixth in the playoffs and will face the No. 5 pick Rollers (4-3) in the first round of the playoffs tomorrow at 5:30pm with the winner challenging the S.J. Ol'Aces in the first semis game on Wednesday at 5:30pm.

In other playoff schedules, No. 2 finishers and defending champions Sonics (6-1) square off against the Rebelholics (1-6) today at 6pm, while the No. 3 Proa/Mariana Resort (5-2) takes on the No. 4 Kagman Cougars (4-3) in the second match tonight at 7pm. Winners of tonight's playoff matches in the U19 division will battle for the second and last finals ticket

to the paint and scored a game-high 24 points. Kobe Mendoza and Chris Mizer contributed 12 points apiece, while Kevin De Leon also finished in twin digits with his 10.

Michael Cenir led the Rebelholics with his 12 markers, while Wilfredo Francisco chipped in 10.

In the other game in the final

day of the regular season, the Ol'Aces crushed the Warriors, 72-39.

The Ol'Aces turned on the heat in the second half to finish the regular season with a 2-5 record and deny the Warriors entry to the win column and the playoff round.

Ahead by only 7 at the break, 27-20, the Ol'Aces drew points from every player it field in the game and held the Warriors to three field goals in the third

when the game was already in the bag for the S.J. Ol'Aces.

Stepping up in absence of Tinian players was Michael San Nicolas, who cherry-picked in

the paint and scored a game-high 24 points. Kobe Mendoza and Chris Mizer contributed 12 points apiece, while Kevin De Leon also finished in twin digits with his 10.

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Weekend Sports

Teams go for final push in Rotary caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League completed its regular season games last week, providing the island some action in a slow week.

In the U19 division, the S.J. Ol'Aces finished the round-robin tournament with a perfect 7-0 record to take the pennant championship and the top seed in the playoffs. The S.J. Ol'Aces capped its clean slate with a 71-

40 victory over the Rebelholics last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Sonics placed second with a 6-1 slate, notching two victories in the final week of the regular season. The defending champions first defeated the Ol'Aces, 62-55, and then whipped the Kagman Cougars, 89-57. Proa/Mariana Resort was next at third place, as it improved to a 5-2 record after winning its last game in the regular season against the Ol'Aces, 55-45.



DA Projects players double team a DYS' Dalton Danco during the first quarter of their game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



An S.J. Ol'Aces player goes for a hooked shot against two Rebelholics defenders during the third quarter of their game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Northern Marianas Badminton Association players pose in front of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Guam before heading to the Dededo Sports Complex to compete in the 2nd GNBF Annual Summer Friendship Badminton Tournament last week.



DYS' Mark Venus fakes off a DA Projects defender during the fourth second of their game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



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Northern Marianas Badminton Association players pose in front of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Guam before heading to the Dededo Sports Complex to compete in the 2nd GNBF Annual Summer Friendship Badminton Tournament last week.



and the Cardinals (0-5).

The opening of the 2012 NMIFA Fall Youth League was also cancelled due to the unplayable Oleai Sports Complex Field. The Tan Holdings FC and Paire FC were scheduled to kick off the season with a game in the boys U15 last Friday.

Meanwhile, CNMI bets excelled in off-island tournaments last week.

Golfer Leina Kim set a school record (in a single round) after shooting a 3-under par 69 in the first tourna-

ment in the Rocky Mountain Athletics Conference in Colorado. She also led her Colorado State University-Pueblo to a first place finish in the 15-school field and won the individual rankings, beating around 70 other players.

In Guam, Northern Marianas Badminton Federation won two championship trophies and four runners-up after competing in the 2nd GNBF Annual Summer Friendship Badminton Tournament held at the Dededo Sports Complex.



S.J. Ol'Aces and Rebelholics players in action during the fourth quarter of their game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

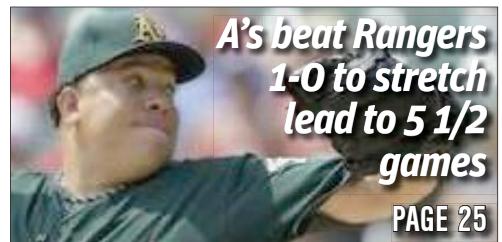


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Northern Marianas Badminton Association players pose in front of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Guam before heading to the Dededo Sports Complex to compete in the 2nd GNBF Annual Summer Friendship Badminton Tournament last week.



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Saipan Tribune Sports



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28 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

DYS, Rebelholics make semis



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

DYS' D.J. Ong goes over the back of a DA Projects player to grab the rebound during the first quarter of their playoff game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

DYS and Rebelholics punched the last two semis tickets in U15 division of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League after cruising past their separate playoff foes last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

In the first playoff match, DYS walloped DA Projects, 62-38, while the Rebelholics outclassed the Rollers, 35-22, in the second game. The playoff round of the U15 division continues today with the Rebelholics colliding against the top-seeded KFC/Taco Bell at 4pm for the first finals berth. DYS and the Ol'Aces dispute the second and last finals seat as they duel in the 5pm match. Both KFC and Ol'Aces earned outright semis slots after finishing in the Top 2 of the regular season.

DYS missed the automatic semis berth after losing to KFC and Ol'Aces in the tiebreak, but marched into the Final Four anyway after easing past the winless DA Projects. The highly favored DYS did not assert its might against the DA Project right away, as it tried

See DYS on Page 26

S.J. Ol'Aces sweeps U19 division



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The S.J. Ol'Aces' Daniel Camacho is fouled by a Rebelholics player on his way for a reverse layup during the second quarter of their game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The S.J. Ol'Aces finished the regular season of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League with an immaculate record.

The S.J. Ol'Aces earned a 7-0 record in the round-robin U19 division of the youth

league, following a 71-40 victory over the Rebelholics last Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. With the sweep, the S.J. Ol'Aces is seeded first in the single-elimination playoffs and got the automatic semis ticket.

A 23-6 start boosted the S.J. Ol'Aces' bid for a perfect re-
See S.J. OL'ACES on Page 26

ATHLETES of the MONTH Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association's August best list is loaded with four athletes making the elite selection for their significant performance last month.

Tennis' Carol Lee and Michael Ren led the chosen group and were joined by golf's Leina

4 named August's best

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kim and football's Joe Miller. Lee and Ren were named NMASA/TSL Foundation Student Athletes of the Month,

while Miller and Kim earned the Male and Female Athlete of the Month citation.

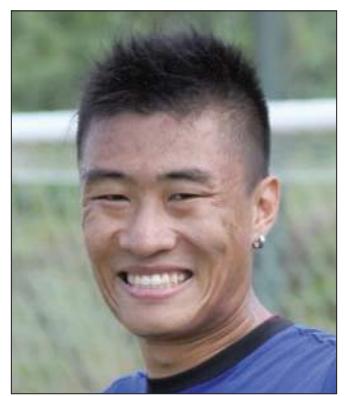
Lee clinched the girls U12

singles and doubles (with Tania Tan) titles in the 2013 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships held in Fiji from Aug. 12 to 16. She swept five games in pool play, recording 6-0, 6-0 wins in four games before recording a 6-1, 6-0 victory in her fifth match. Lee continued her streak

See 4 NAMED on Page 26



Lee



Miller



Kim



Ren